Editorial



Column

Rend

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A Social Responsibility

Bucknell's NAACP chapter will sponsor a Pennsylvania Migrant Labor Conference on campus this Saturday in order to act against the deplorable conditions in these campus. There are two migrant camps near Lewisburg and Bloomsburg where the living conditions are terrible. Someone must act against this mistreatment of humanity.

In the first place, the laborers are brought to these camps with the assurance of receiving \$60 a week, yet some of them do not make over \$35. The workers find that they must pay extremely high prices to buy things at the agent's store at the camp. By the time they finish work, sometimes not until 8 p. m., it is too late to walk three miles to the nearest town to purchase things at regular prices.

Health laws are sometimes violated. There are no resident doctors or nurses at these camps. If a worker is sick he must go into town and pay regular medical fees. Diseases have a chance to flourish in overcrowded conditions. For example, a family of eleven living in a barn room only eight by sixteen feet in size.

In one camp, five hundred Negroes were living in a three story barn where they slept on concrete floors covered with straw. There were no fire escapes and no other fire protection. Just think what would happen if a fire started there. Something must be done!

Who is responsible for this? The farm organizations which hire labor agents to recruit crop-pickers, the agents and the state employment offices have all been charged with neglect. But the main question is not "Who did it?" The main question is "How can this situation be improved?"

The NAACP is bringing outstanding men and women here to work with students on this problem. Take advantage of this

conference. It is your social responsibility. Attend!