

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 1, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

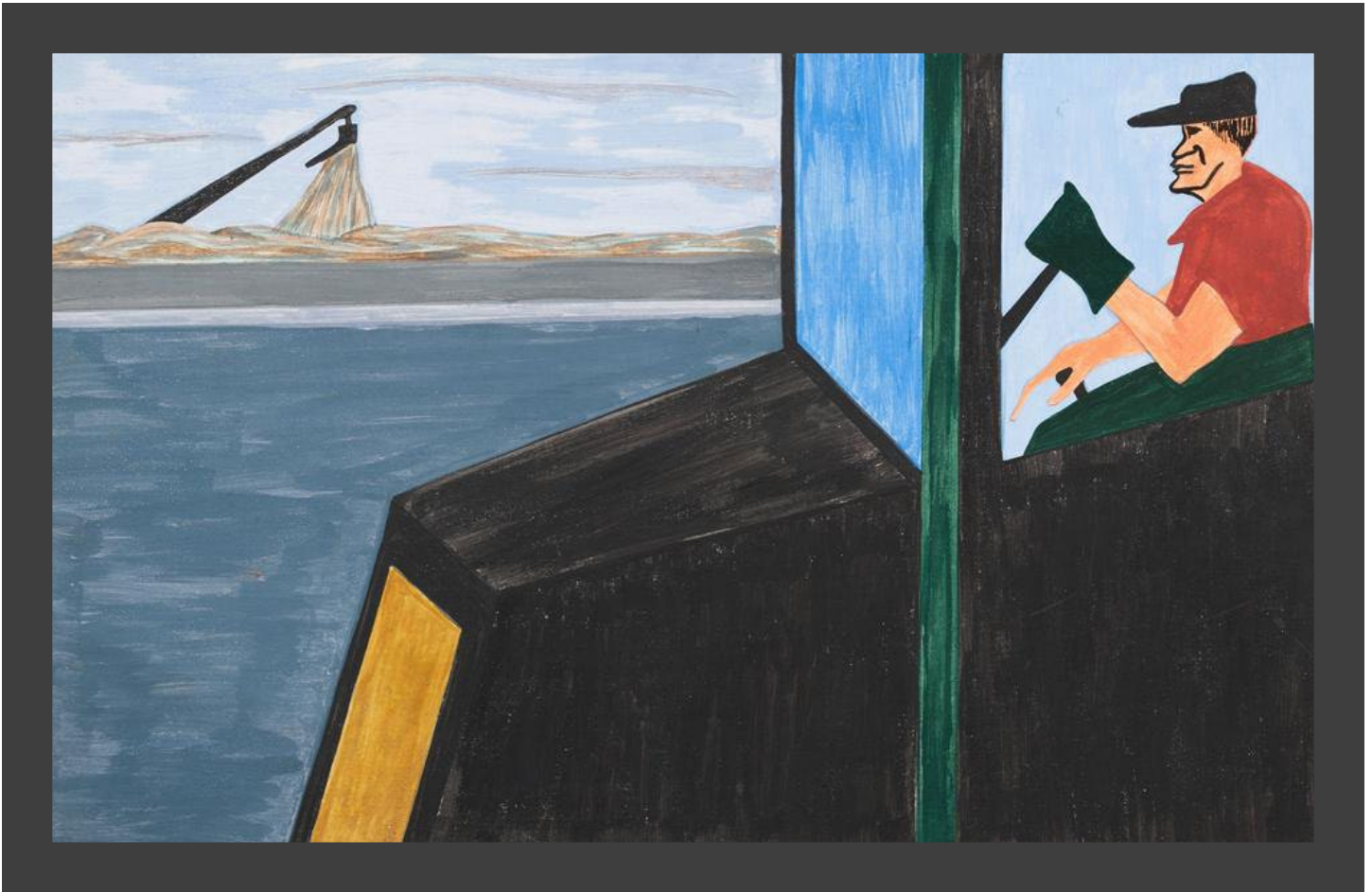


During the World War there was a great migration North by Southern Negroes.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 2, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

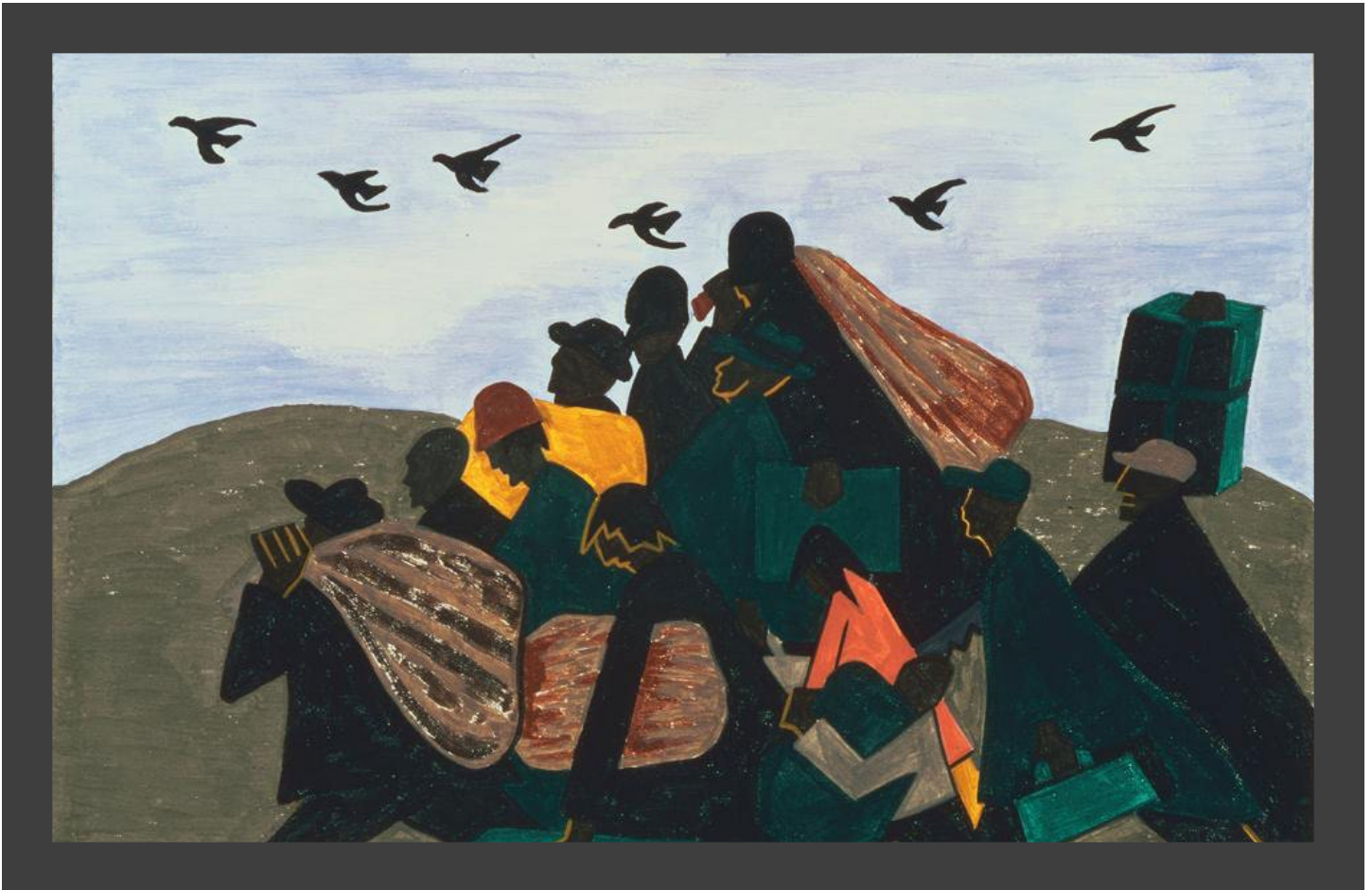


The World War had caused a great shortage in Northern industry and also citizens of foreign countries were returning home.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 3, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



In every town Negroes were leaving by the hundreds to go North and enter into Northern industry.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 4, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



The Negro was the largest source of labor to be found after all others had been exhausted.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 5, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

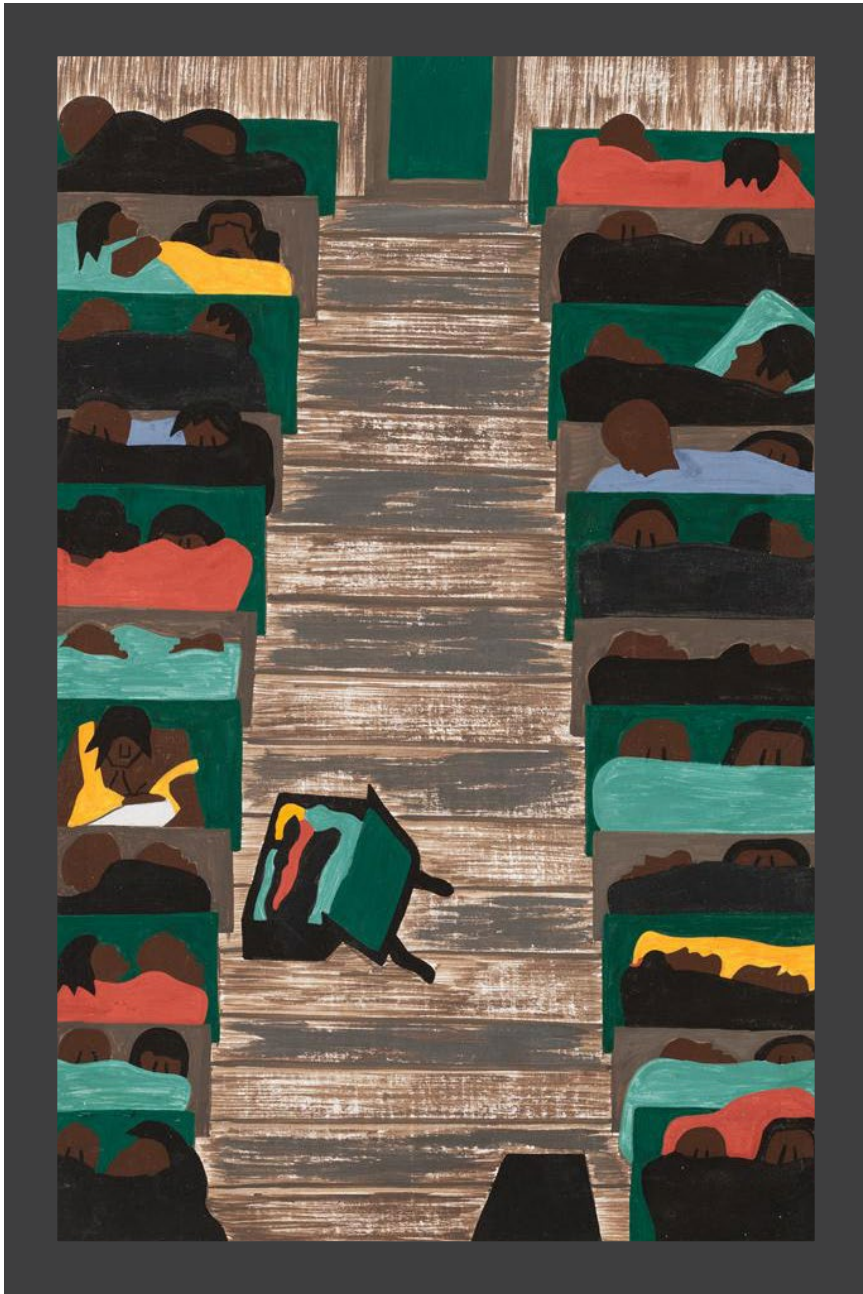


The Negroes were given free passage on the railroads which was paid back by Northern industry. It was an agreement that the people brought North on these railroads were to pay back their passage after they had received jobs.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 6, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

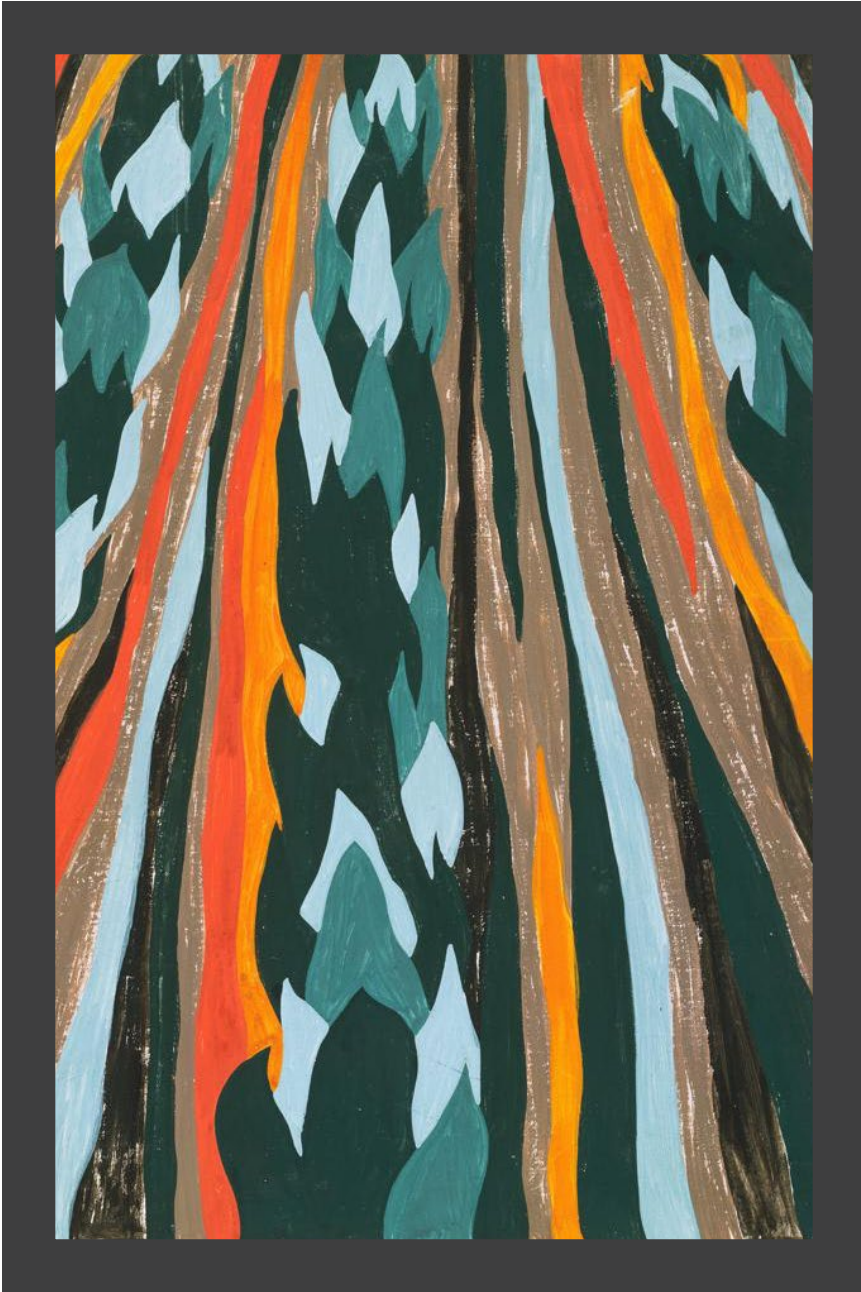


The trains were packed continually with migrants.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 7, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

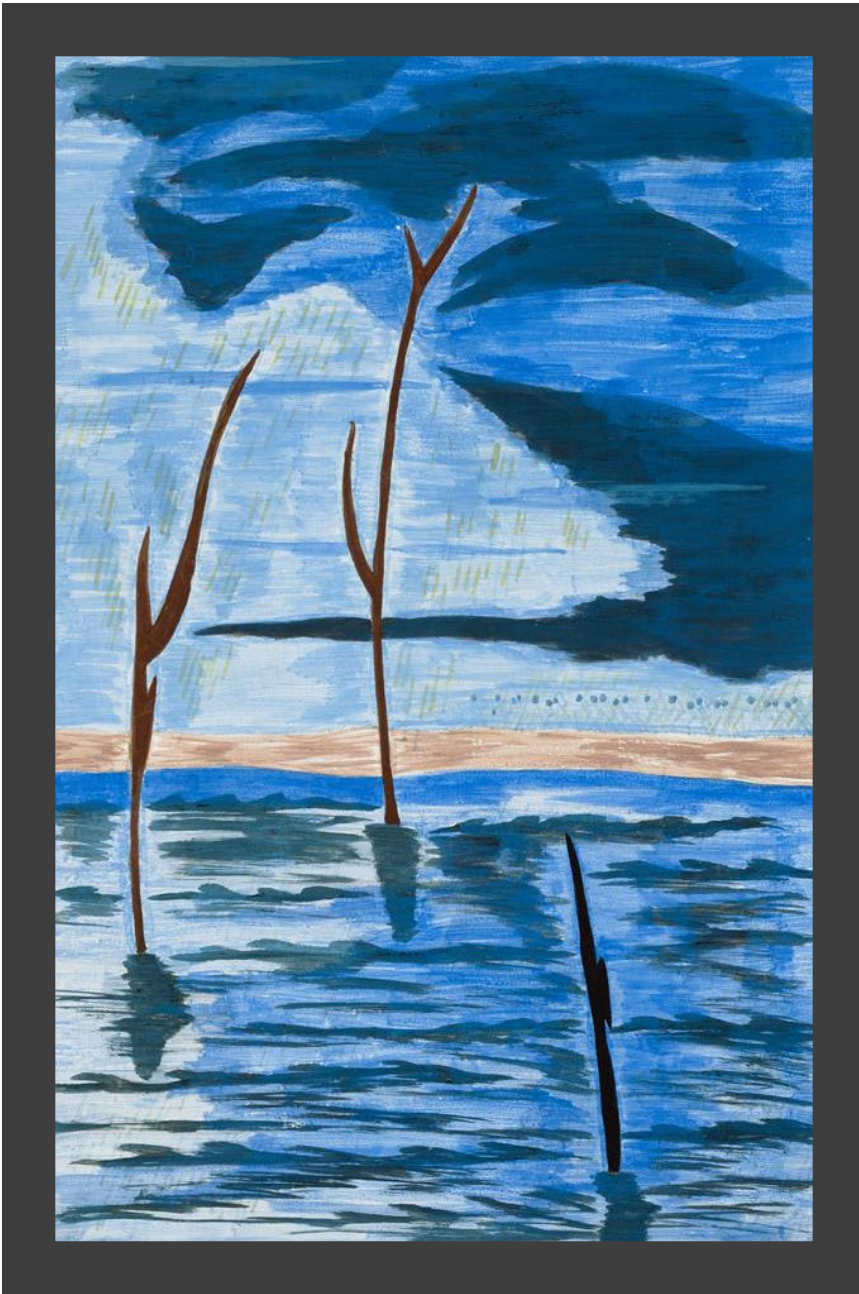


The Negro, who had been part of the soil for many years, was now going into and living a new life in the urban centers.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 8, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

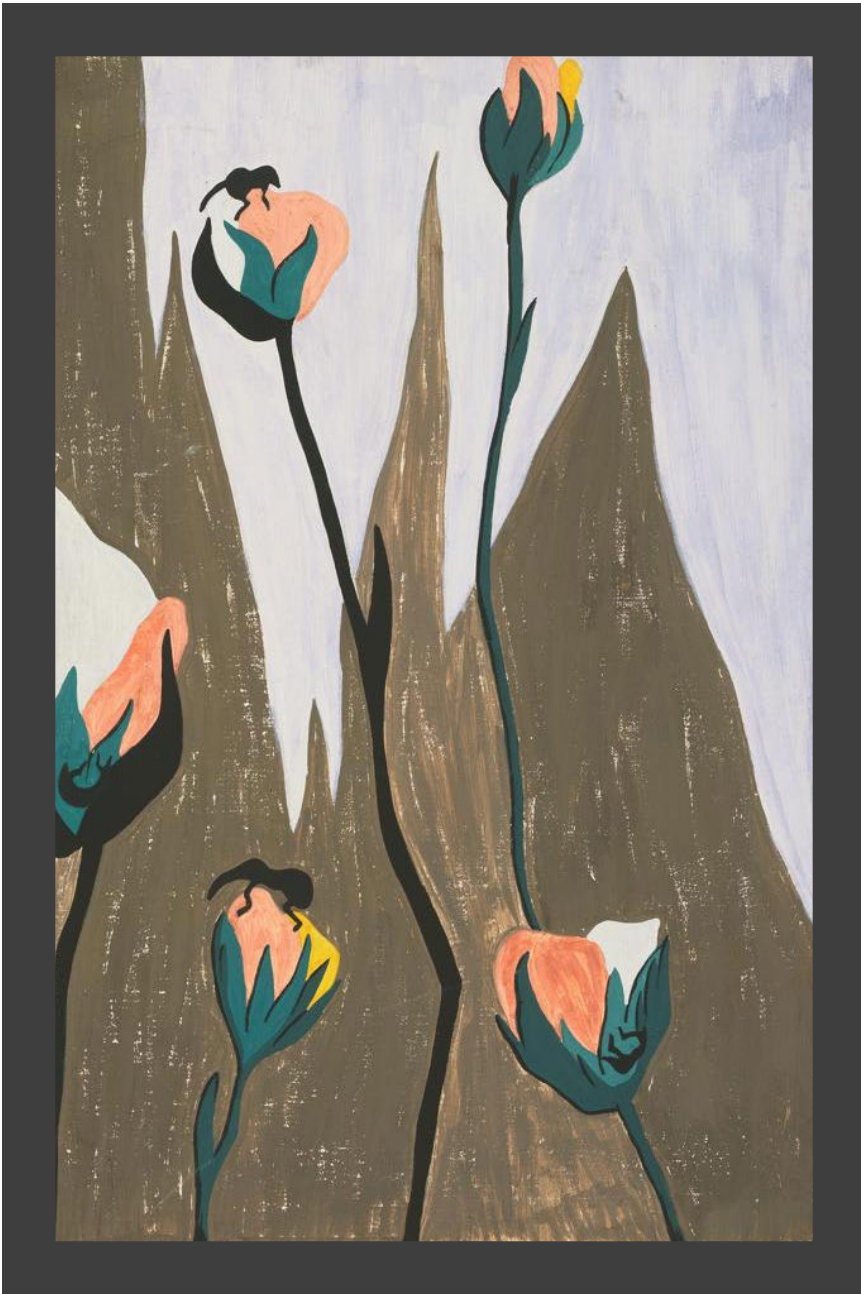


They did not always leave because they were promised work in the North. Many of them left because of Southern conditions, one of them being great floods that ruined the crops, and therefore they were unable to make a living where they were.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 9, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

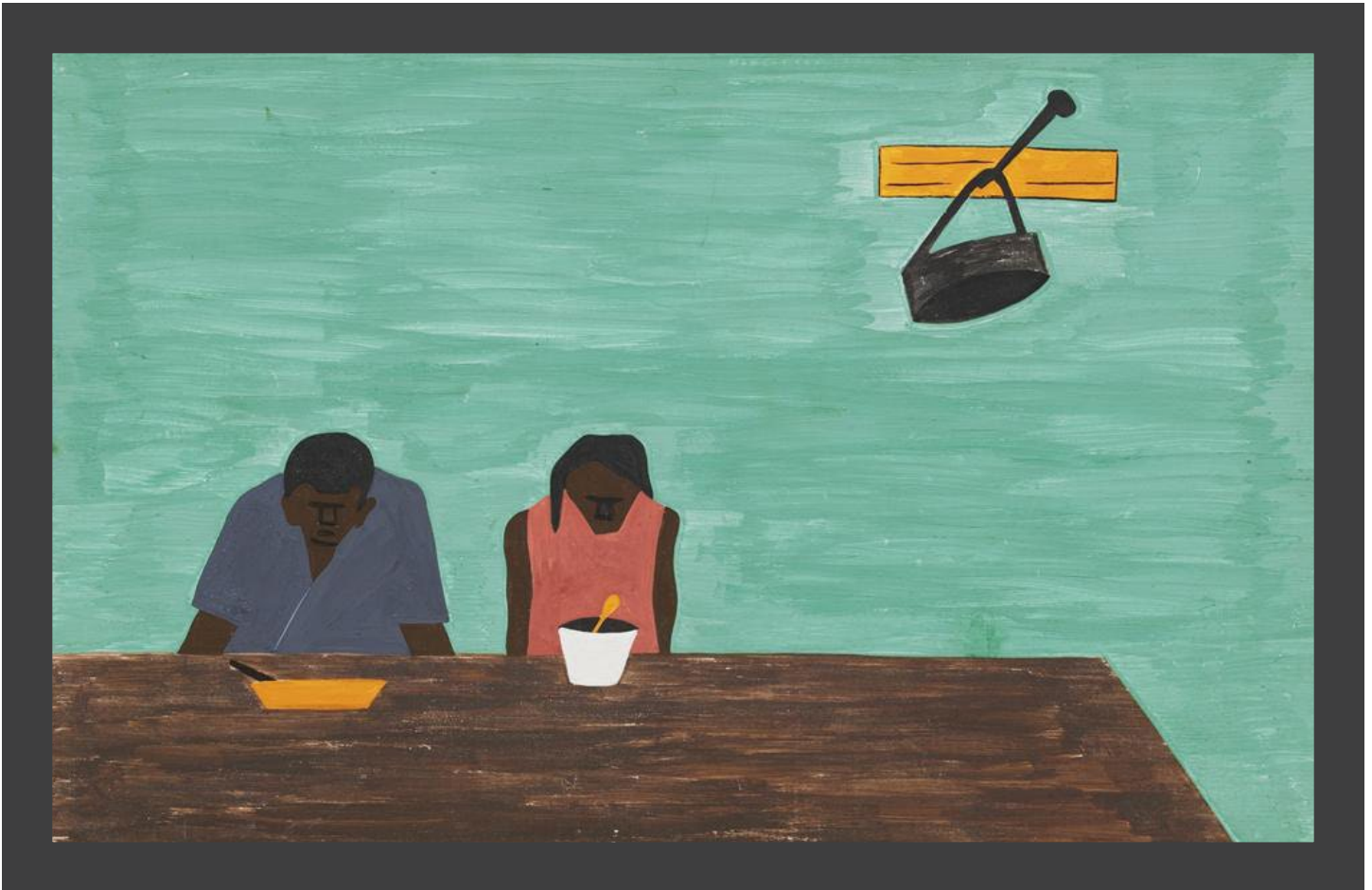


Another great ravager of the crops was the boll weevil.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 10, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

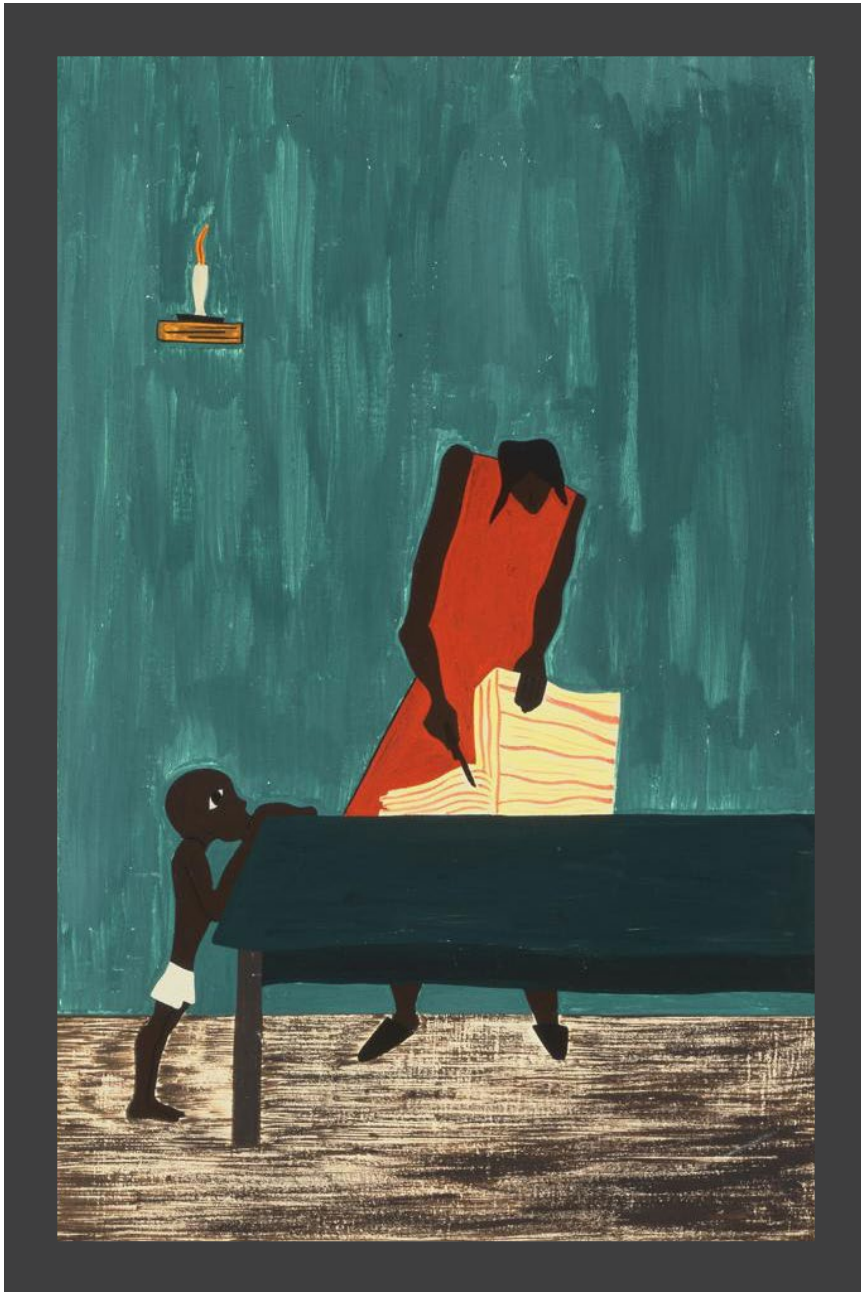


They were very poor.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 11, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



In many places, because of the war, food had doubled in price.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 12, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



The railroad stations were at times so over-packed with people leaving that special guards had to be called in to keep order.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 13, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

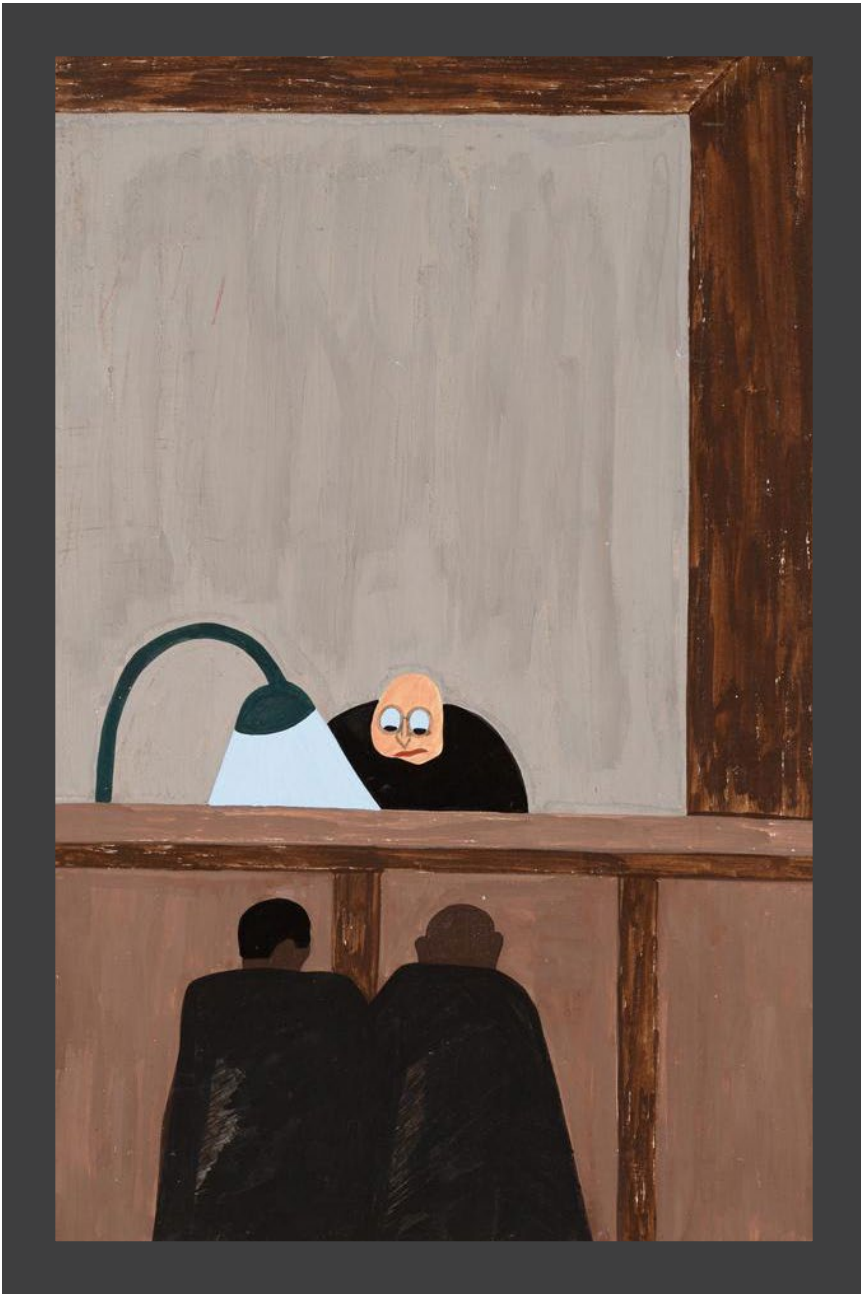


Due to the South's losing so much of its labor, the crops were left to dry and spoil.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 14, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



Among the social conditions which was partly the cause of the migration was the injustice done to the Negroes in the courts.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 15, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



Another cause was lynching. It was found that where there had been a lynching, the people who were reluctant to leave at first left immediately after this.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 16, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

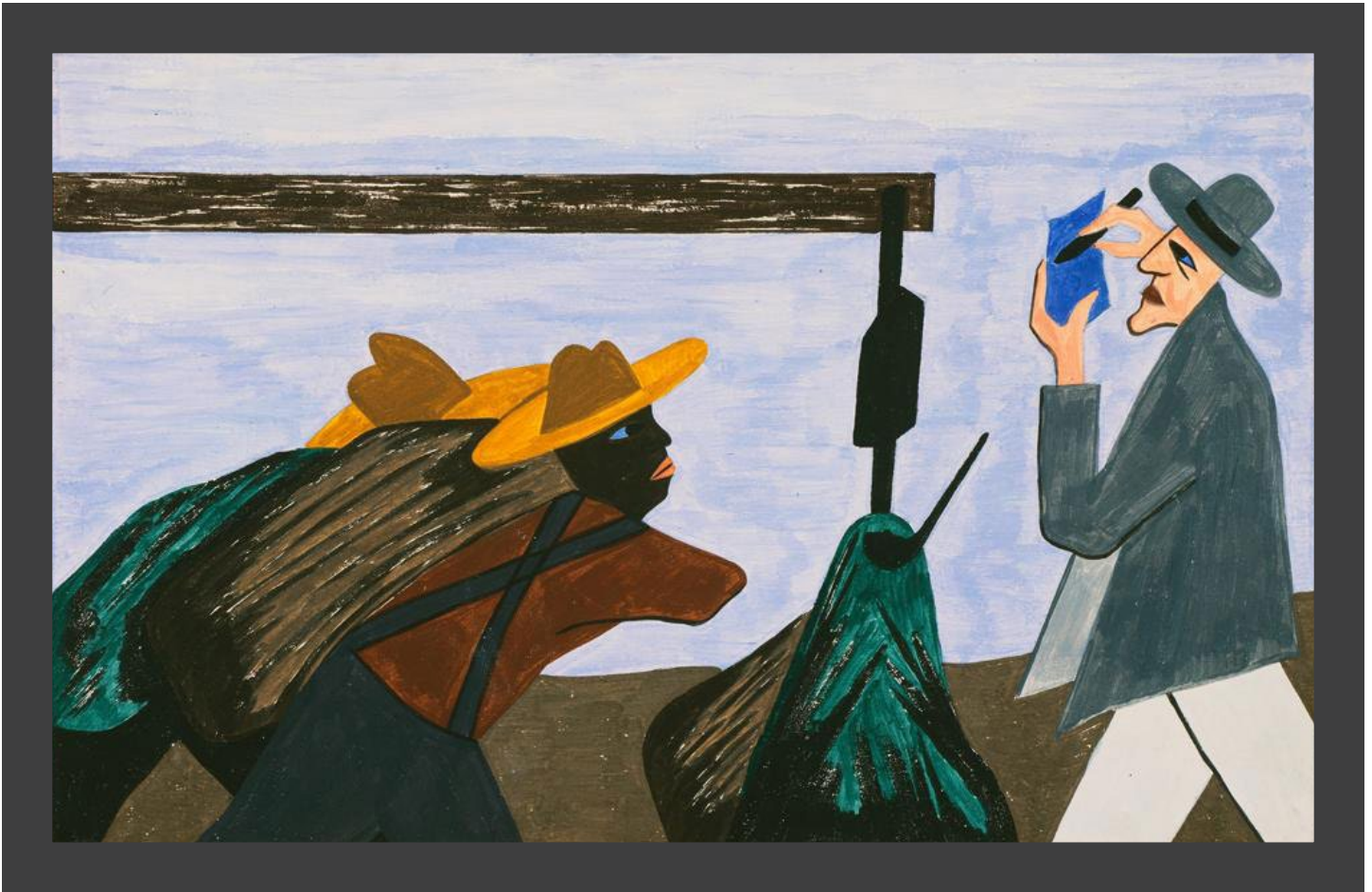


Although the Negro was used to lynching, he found this an opportune time for him to leave where one had occurred.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 17, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



The migration was spurred on by the treatment of the tenant farmers by the planter.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 18, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



The migration gained in momentum.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 19, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

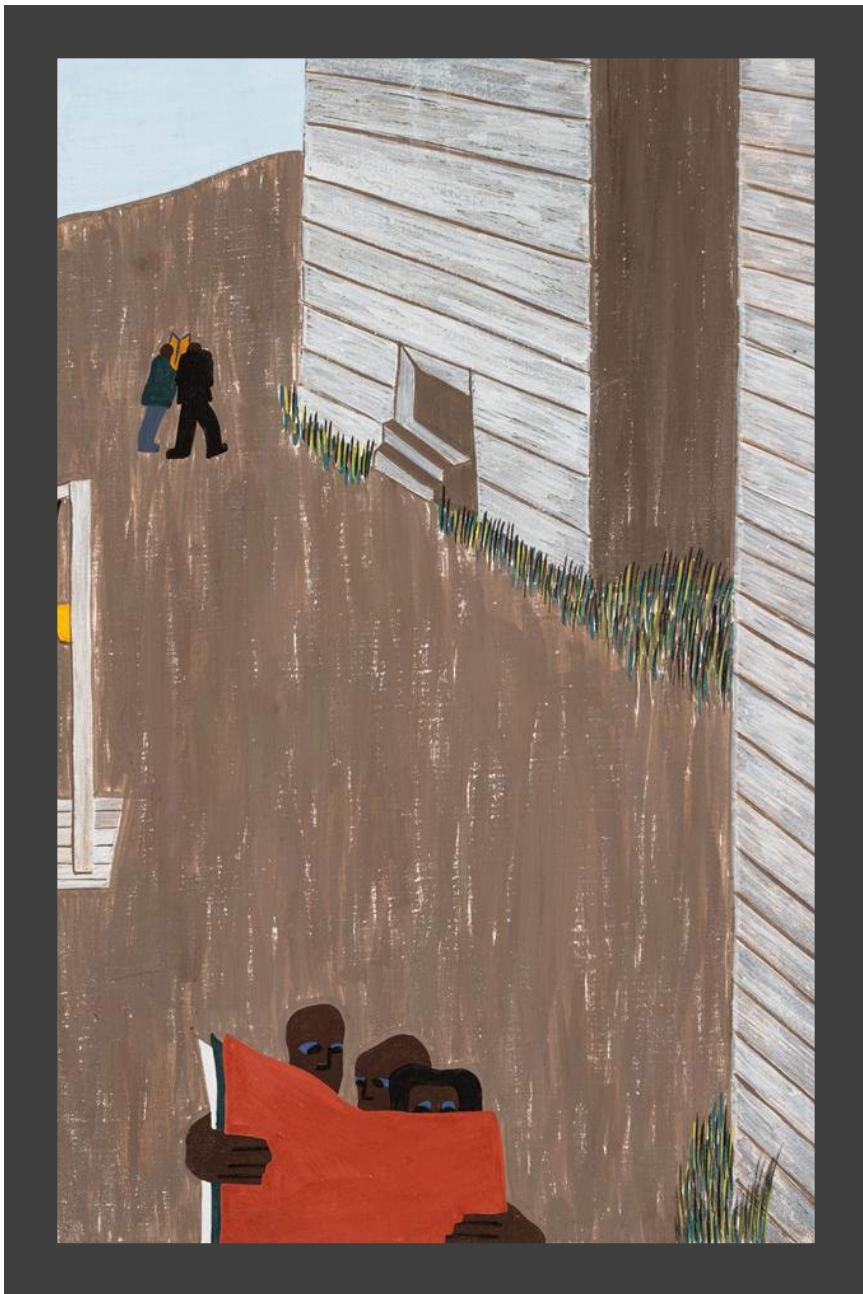


There had always been discrimination.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 20, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

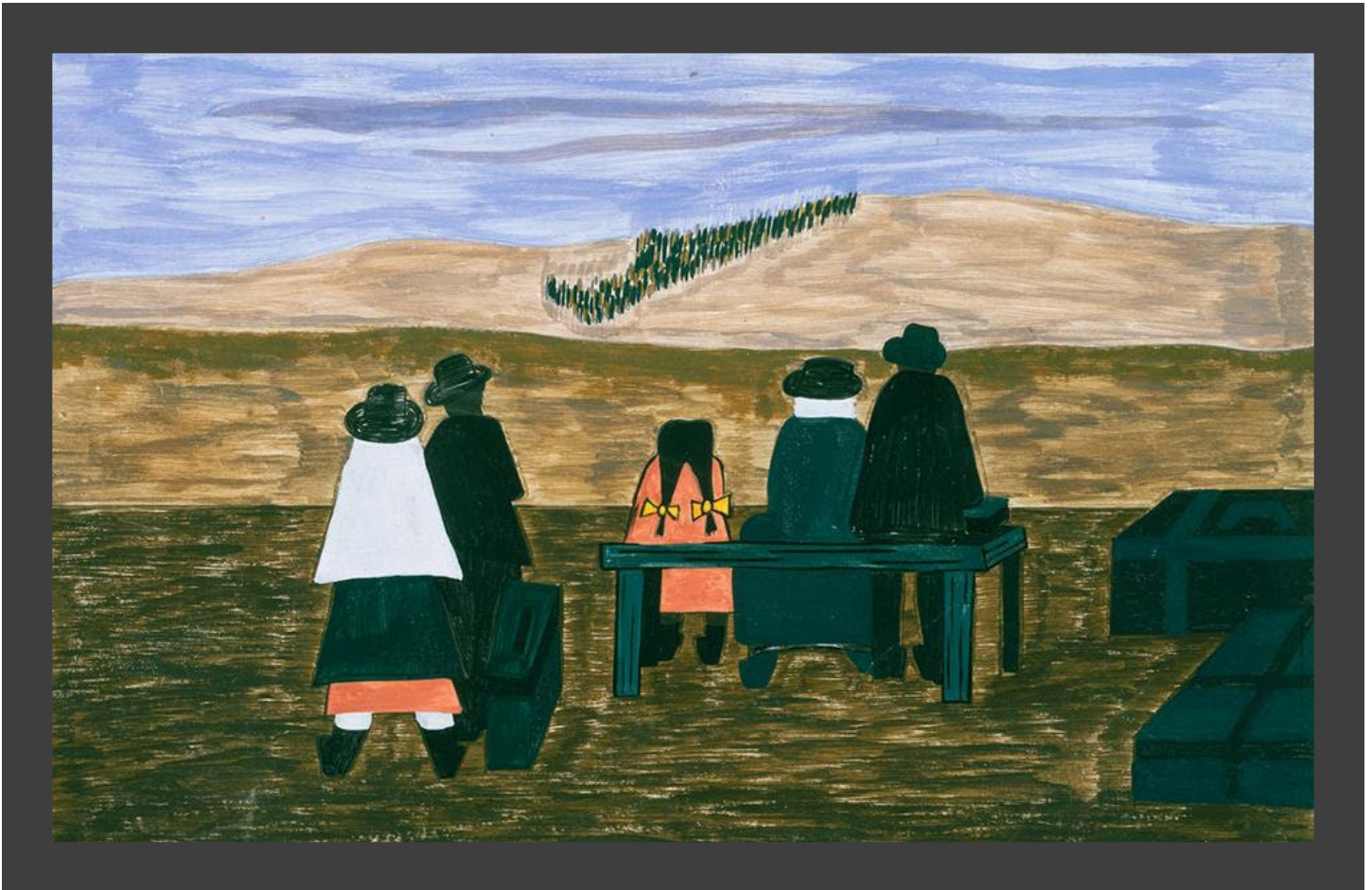


In many of the communities the Negro press was read continually because of its attitude and its encouragement of the movement.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 21, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



Families arrived at the station very early in order not to miss their train North.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 22, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



Another of the social causes of the migrants' leaving was that at times they did not feel safe, or it was not the best thing to be found on the streets late at night. They were arrested on the slightest provocation.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 23, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

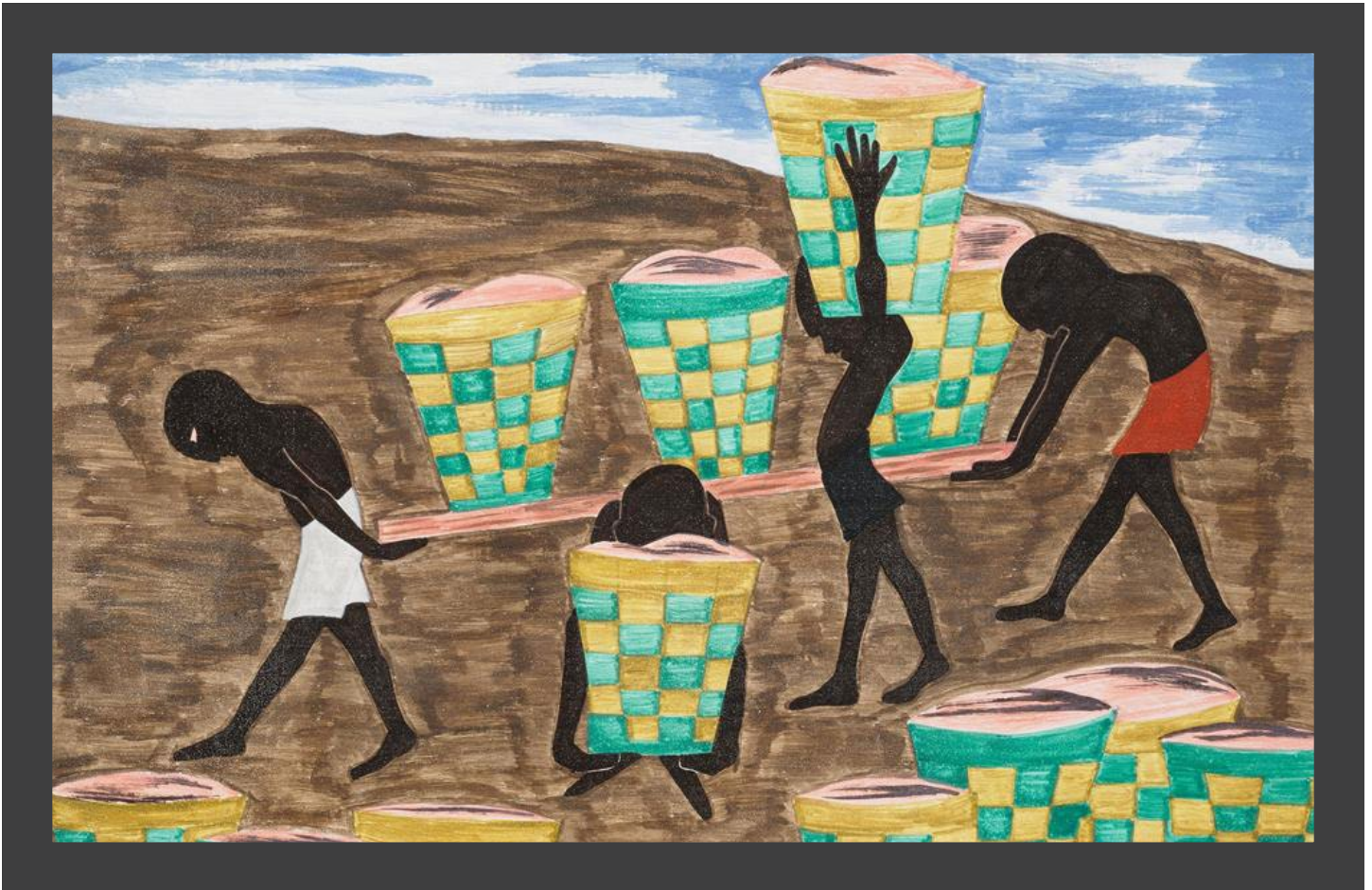


And the migration spread.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 24, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

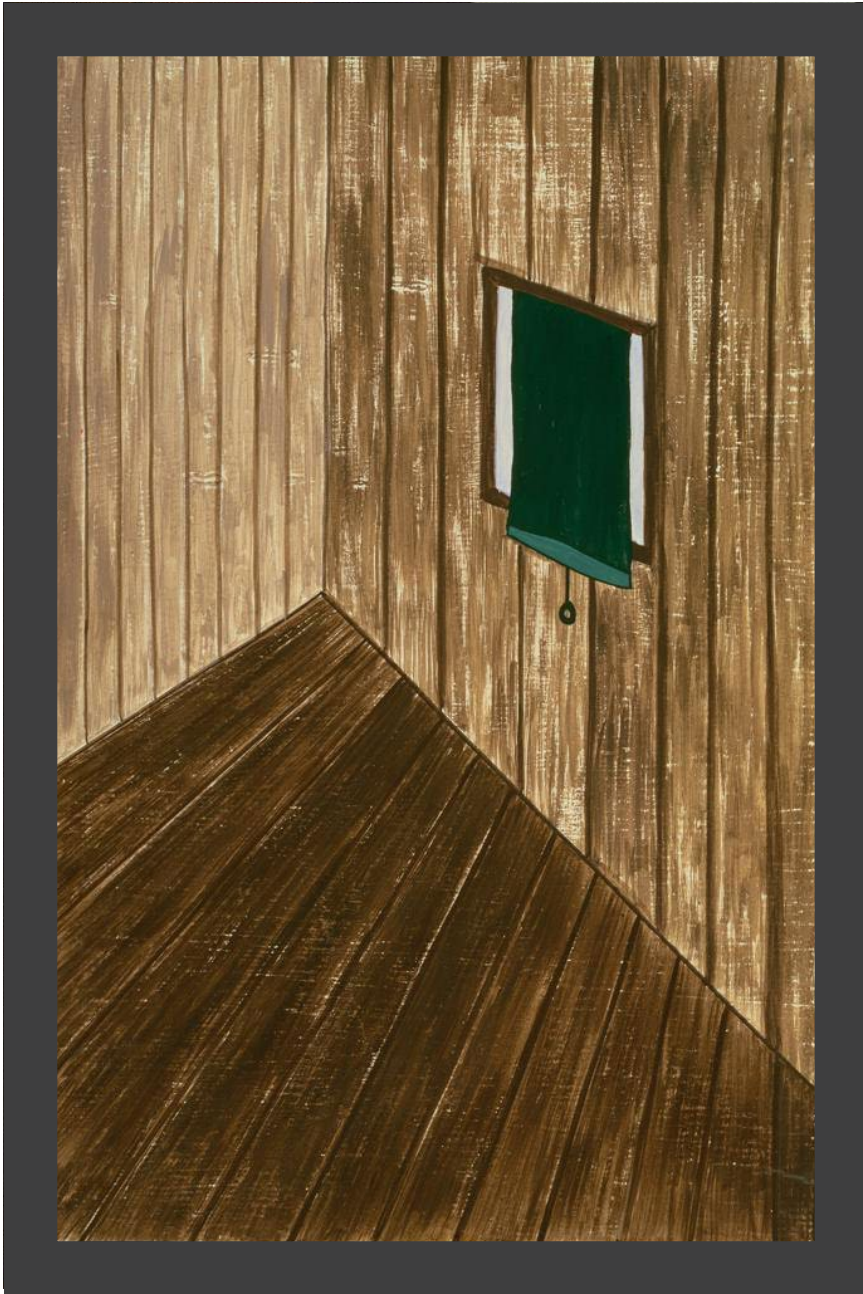


Child labor and a lack of education was one of the other reasons for people wishing to leave their homes.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 25, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



After a while some communities were left almost bare.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 26, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

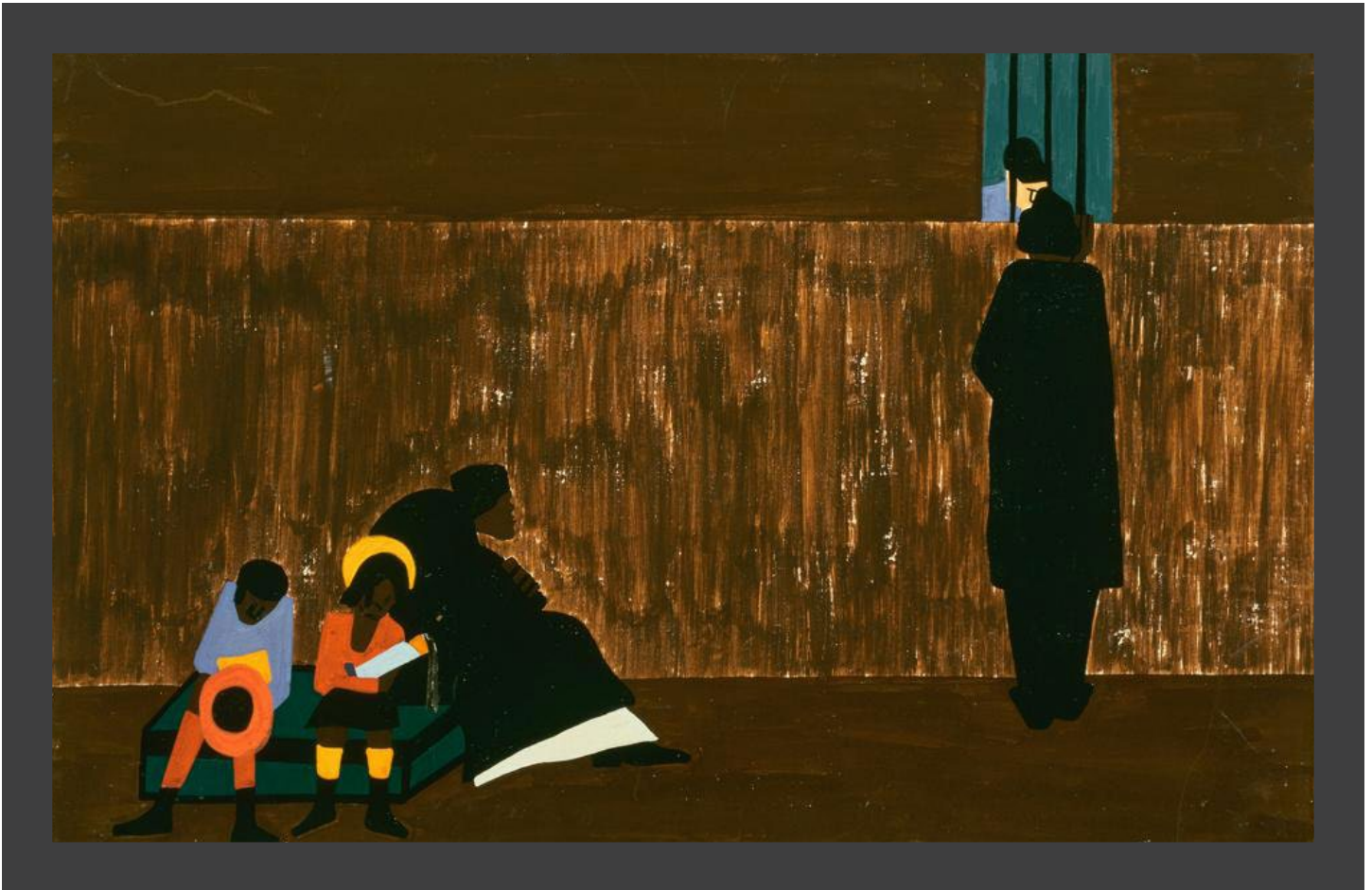


And people all over the South began to discuss this great movement.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 27, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



Many men stayed behind until they could bring their families North.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 28, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



The labor agent who had been sent South by Northern industry was a very familiar person in the Negro counties.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 29, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



The labor agent also recruited laborers to break strikes which were occurring in the North.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 30, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



In every home people who had not gone North met and tried to decide if they should go North or not.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 31, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

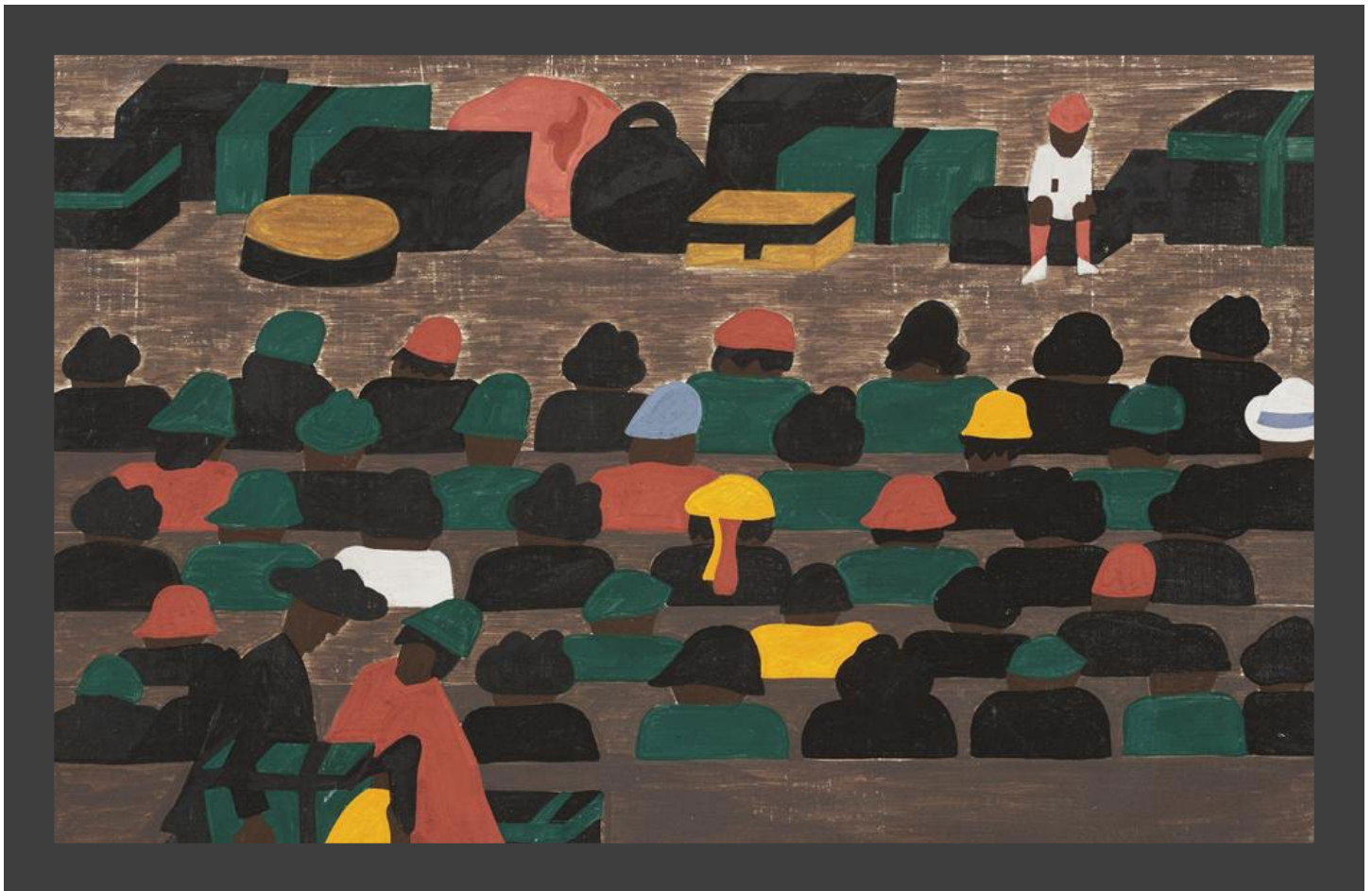


After arriving North the Negroes had better housing conditions.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 32, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



The railroad stations in the South were crowded with people leaving for the North.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 33, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

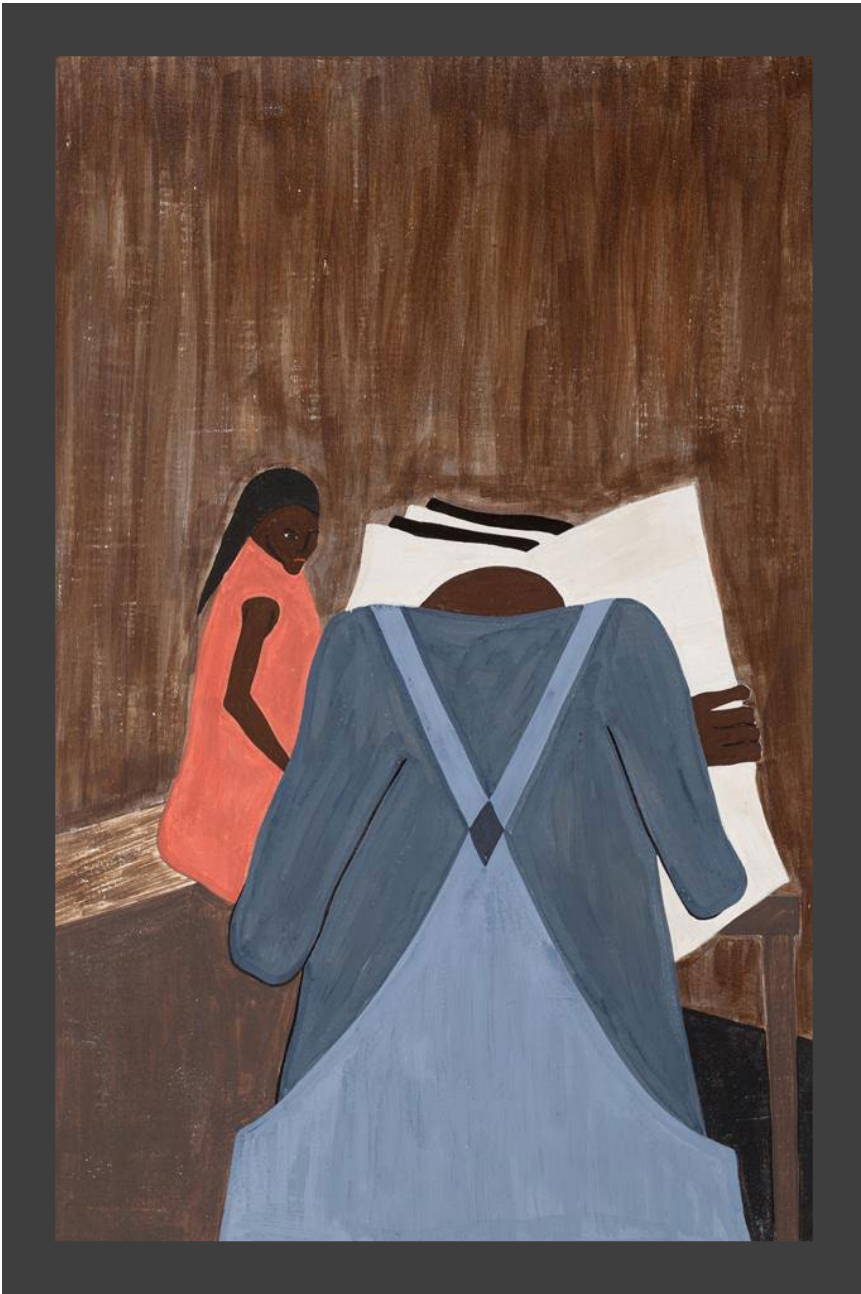


People who had not yet come North received letters from their relatives telling them of the better conditions that existed in the North.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 34, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



The Negro press was also influential in urging the people to leave the South.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 35, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



They left the South in large numbers and they arrived in the North in large numbers.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 36, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



They arrived in great numbers into Chicago, the gateway of the West.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 37, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

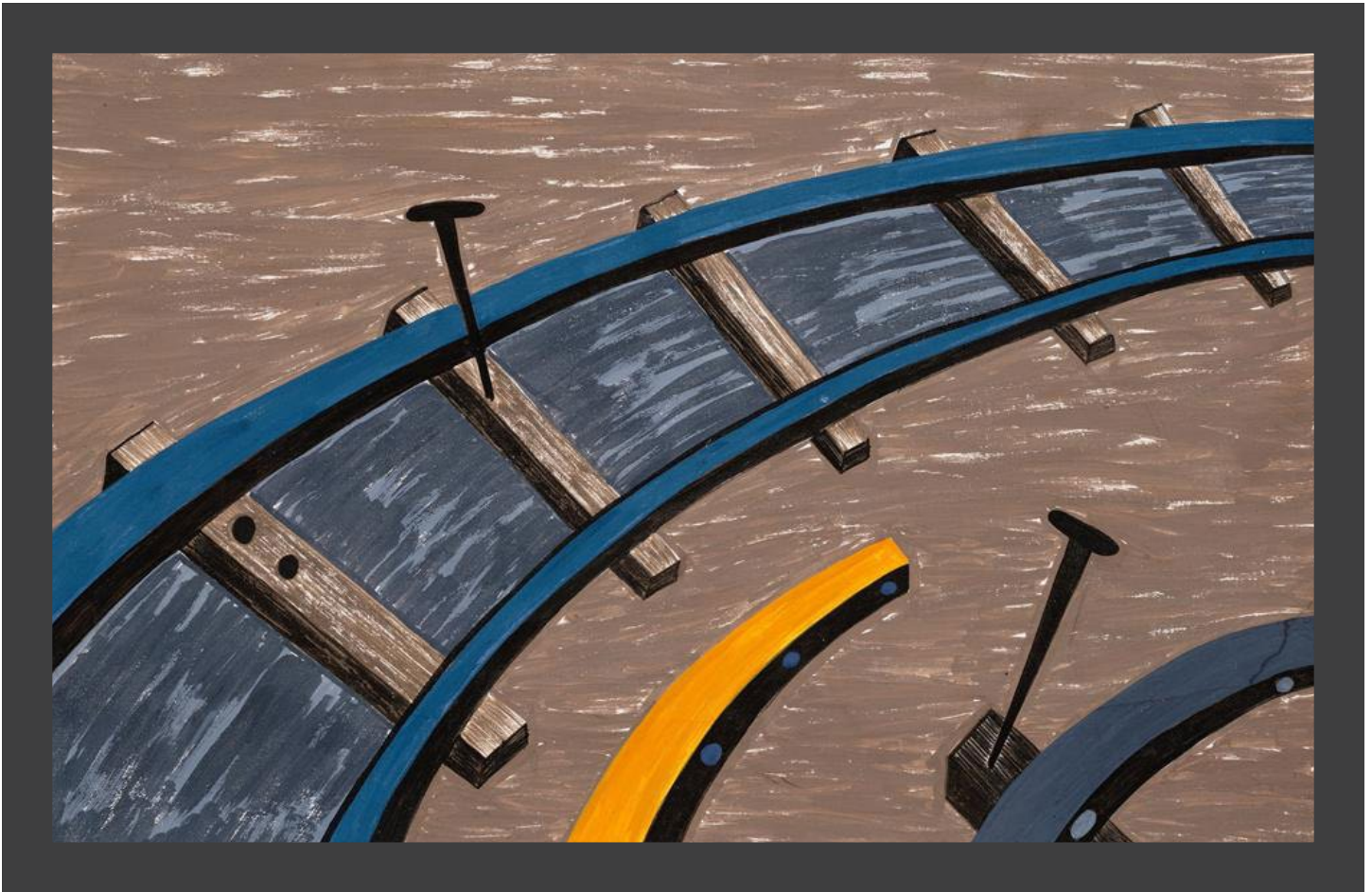


The Negroes that had been brought North worked in large numbers in one of the principal industries, which was steel.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 38, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



They also worked in large numbers on the railroad.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 39, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



Luggage crowded the railroad platforms.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 40, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

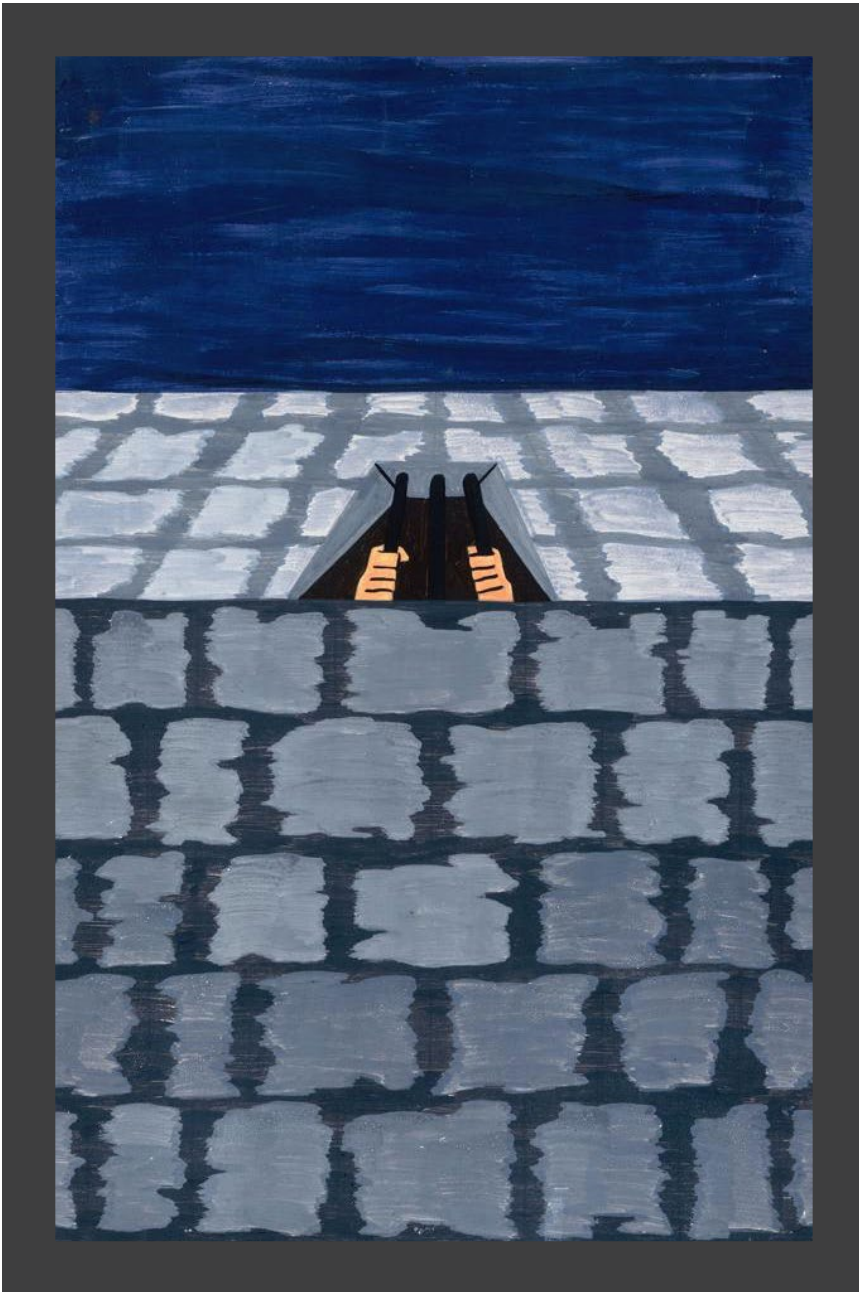


The migrants arrived in great numbers.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 41, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



The South that was interested in keeping cheap labor was making it very difficult for labor agents recruiting Southern labor for Northern firms. In many instances, they were put in jail and were forced to operate incognito.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 42, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

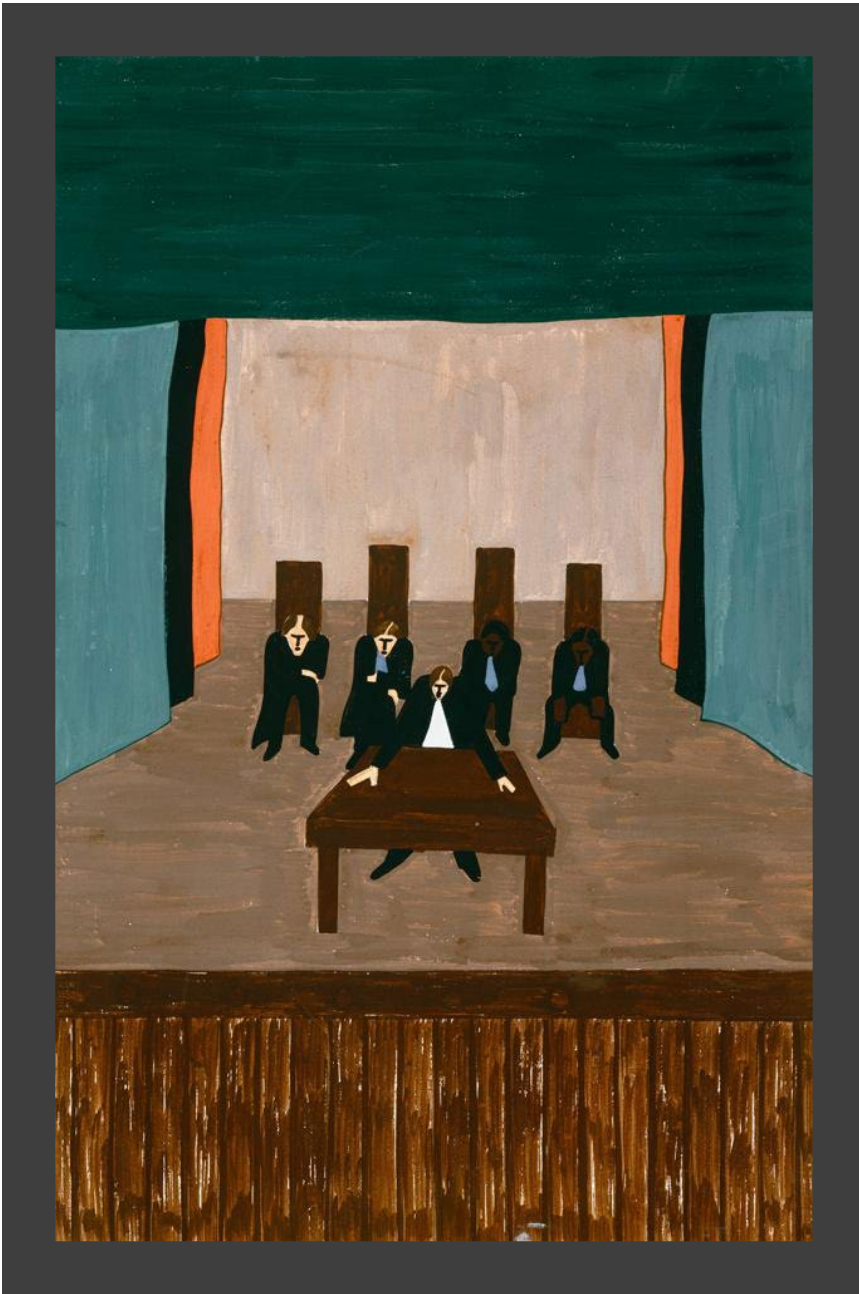


They also made it very difficult for migrants leaving the South. They often went to railroad stations and arrested the Negroes wholesale, which in turn made them miss their trains.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 43, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

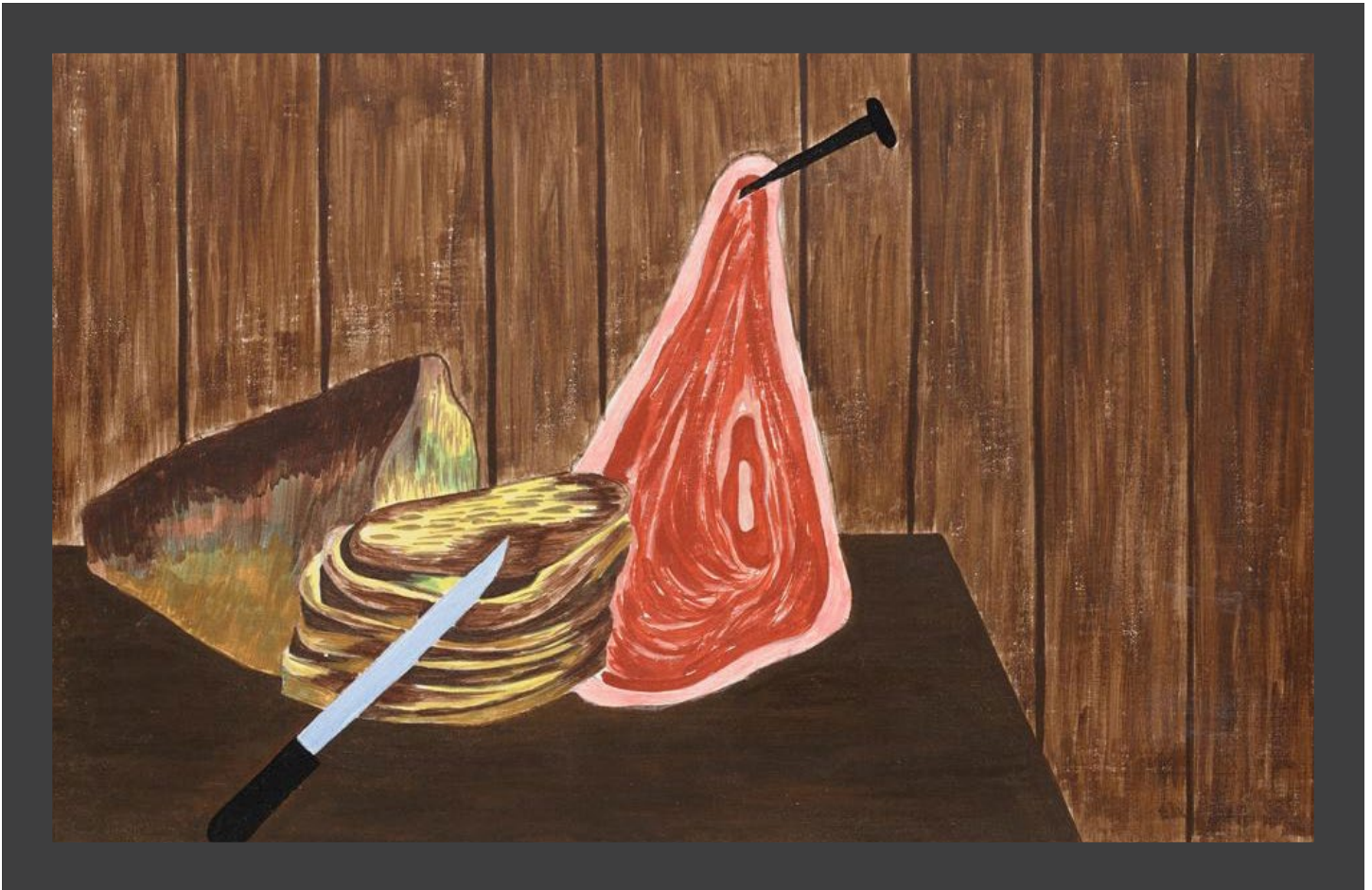


In a few sections of the South the leaders of both groups met and attempted to make conditions better for the Negro so that he would remain in the South.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 44, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



Living conditions were better in the North.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 45, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



They arrived in Pittsburgh, one of the great industrial centers of the North, in large numbers.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 46, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

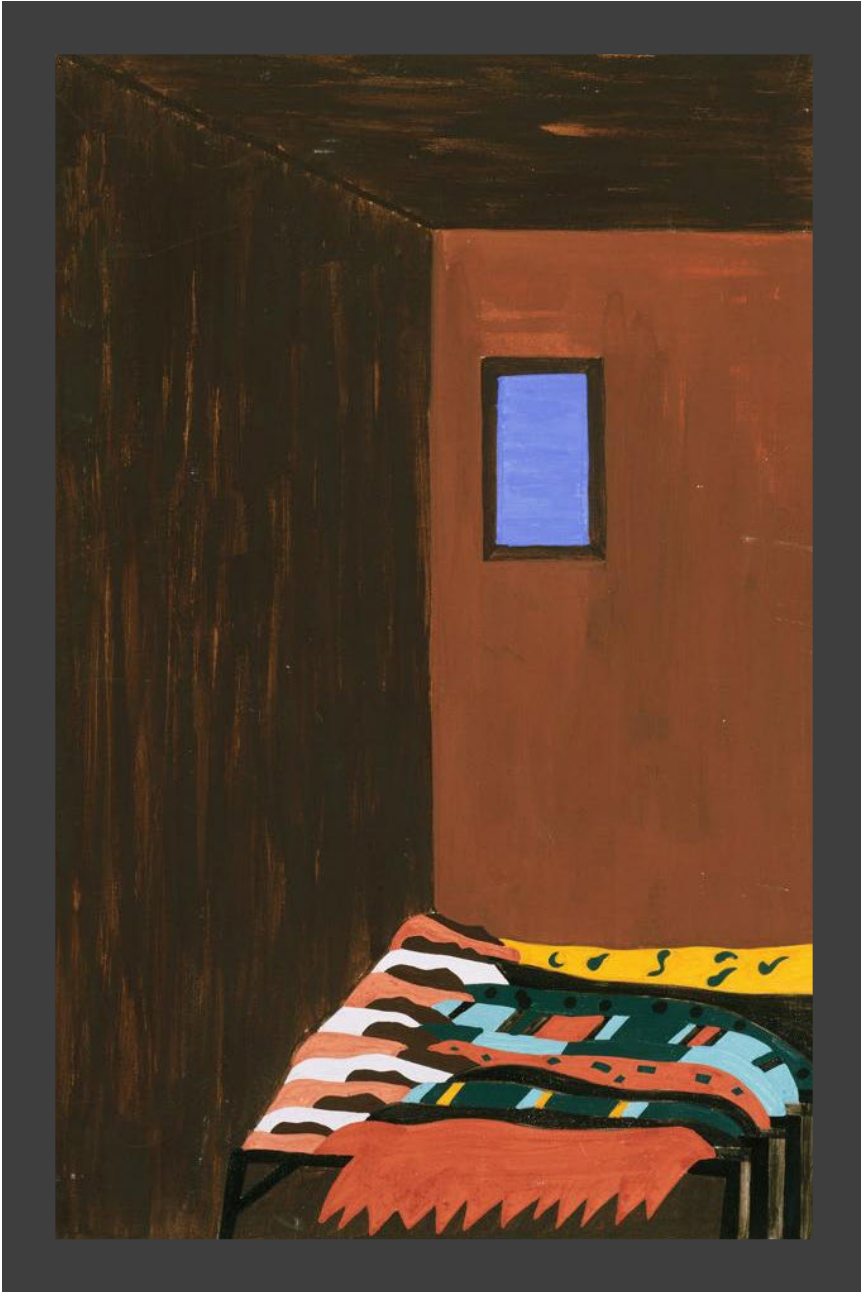


Industries attempted to board their labor in quarters that were oftentimes very unhealthy. Labor camps were numerous.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 47, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



As well as finding better conditions in the North, the migrants found very poor housing conditions in the North. They were forced into overcrowded and dilapidated tenement houses.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 48, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

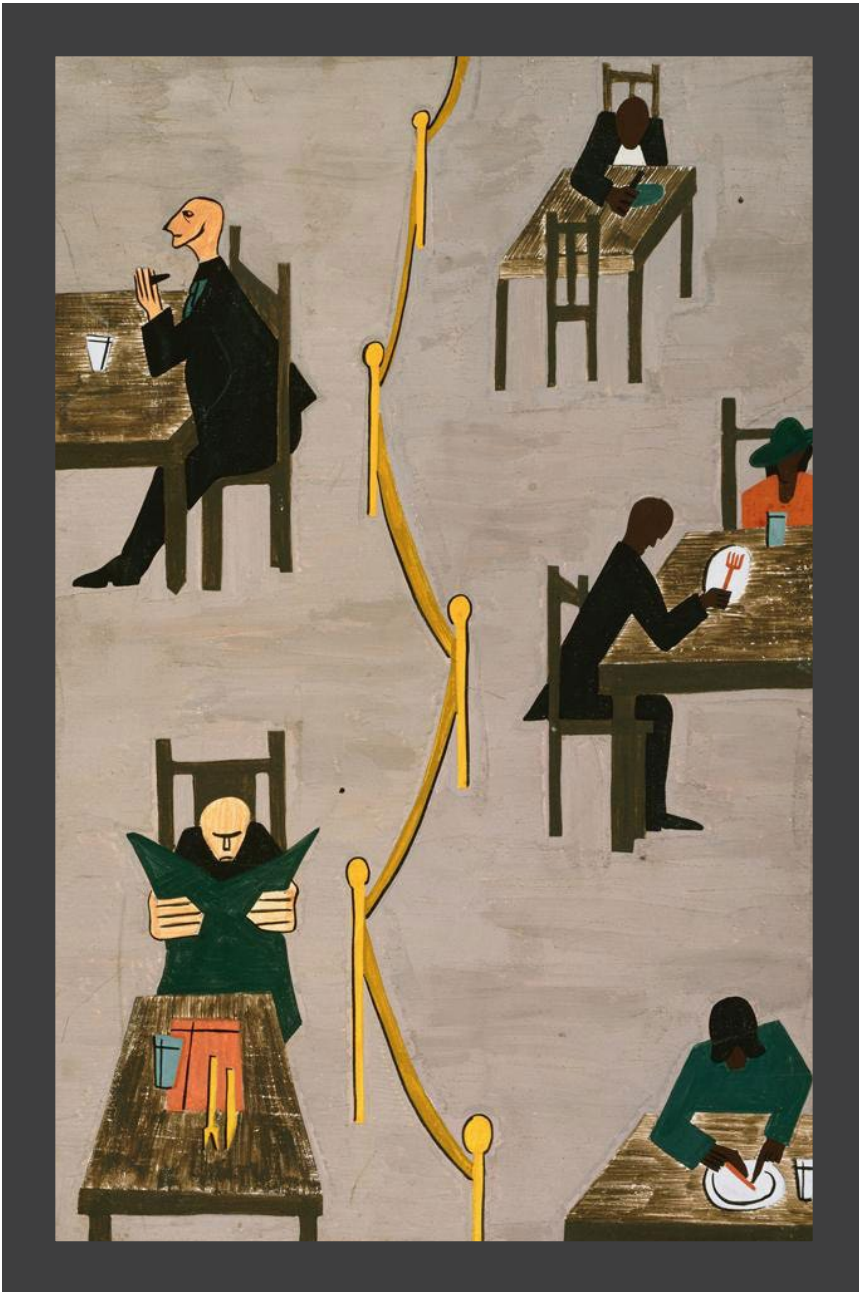


Housing for the Negroes was a very difficult problem.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 49, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



They also found discrimination in the North although it was much different from that which they had known in the South.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 50, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

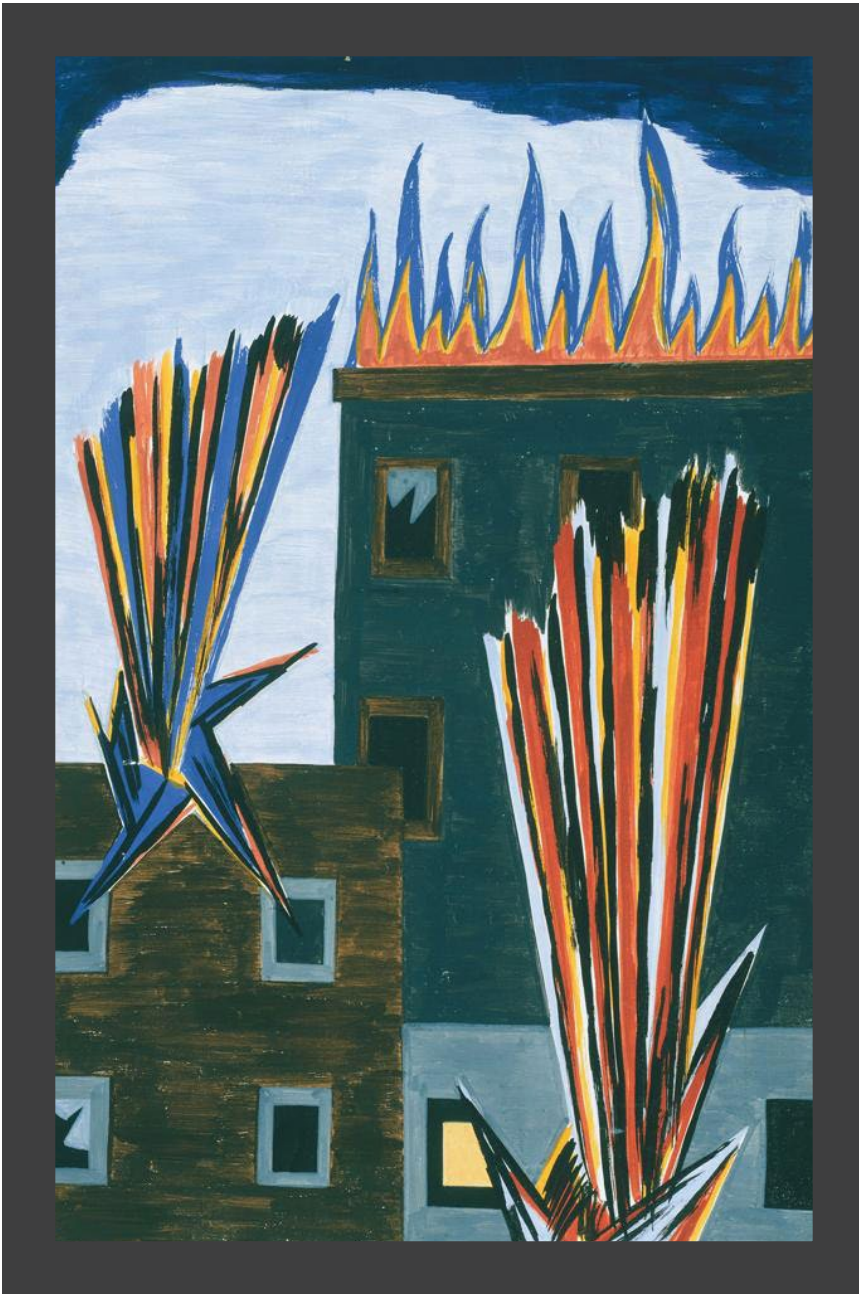


Race riots were very numerous all over the North because of the antagonism that was caused between the Negro and white workers. Many of these riots occurred because the Negro was used as a strike breaker in many of the Northern industries.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 51, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



In many cities in the North where the Negroes had been overcrowded in their own living quarters they attempted to spread out. This resulted in many of the race riots and the bombing of Negro homes.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 52, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

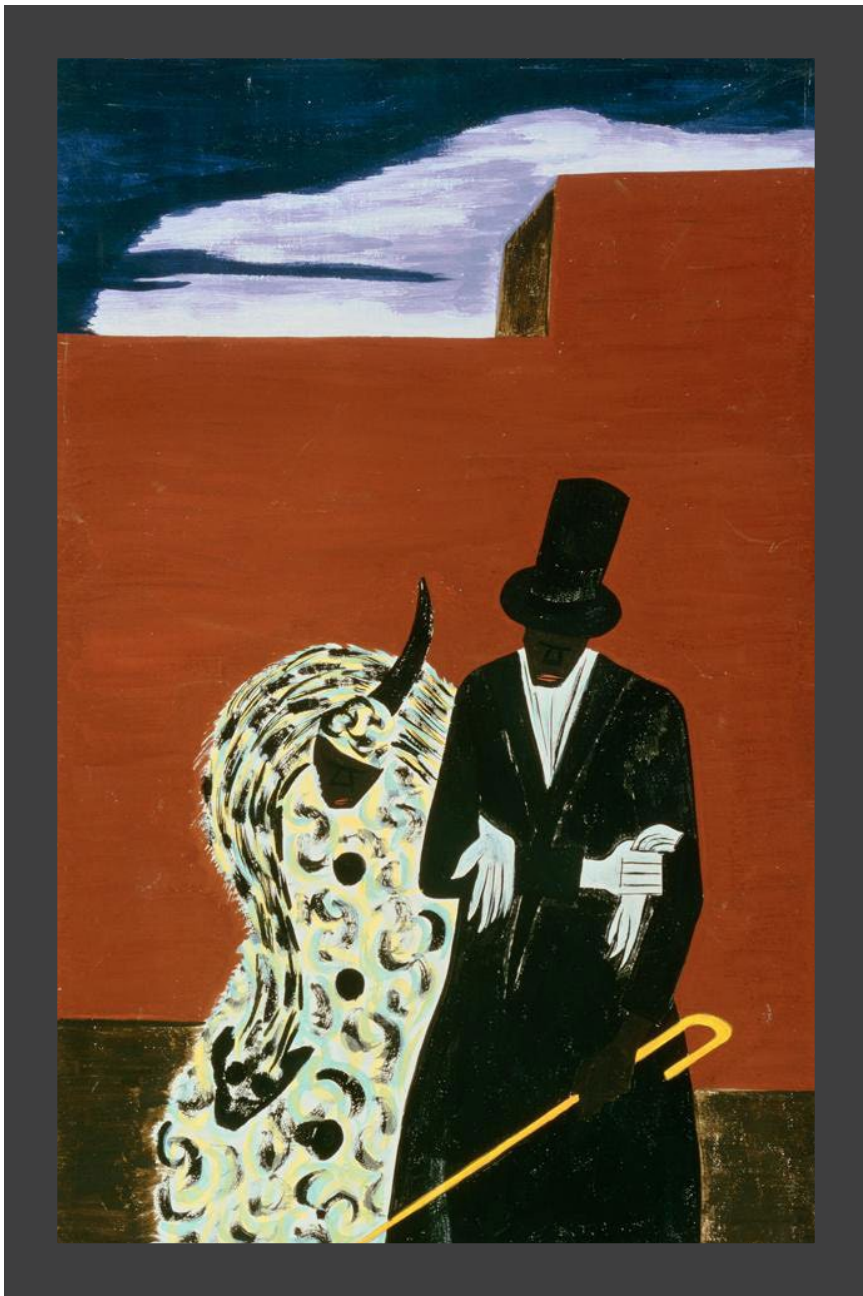


One of the largest race riots occurred in East St. Louis.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 53, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

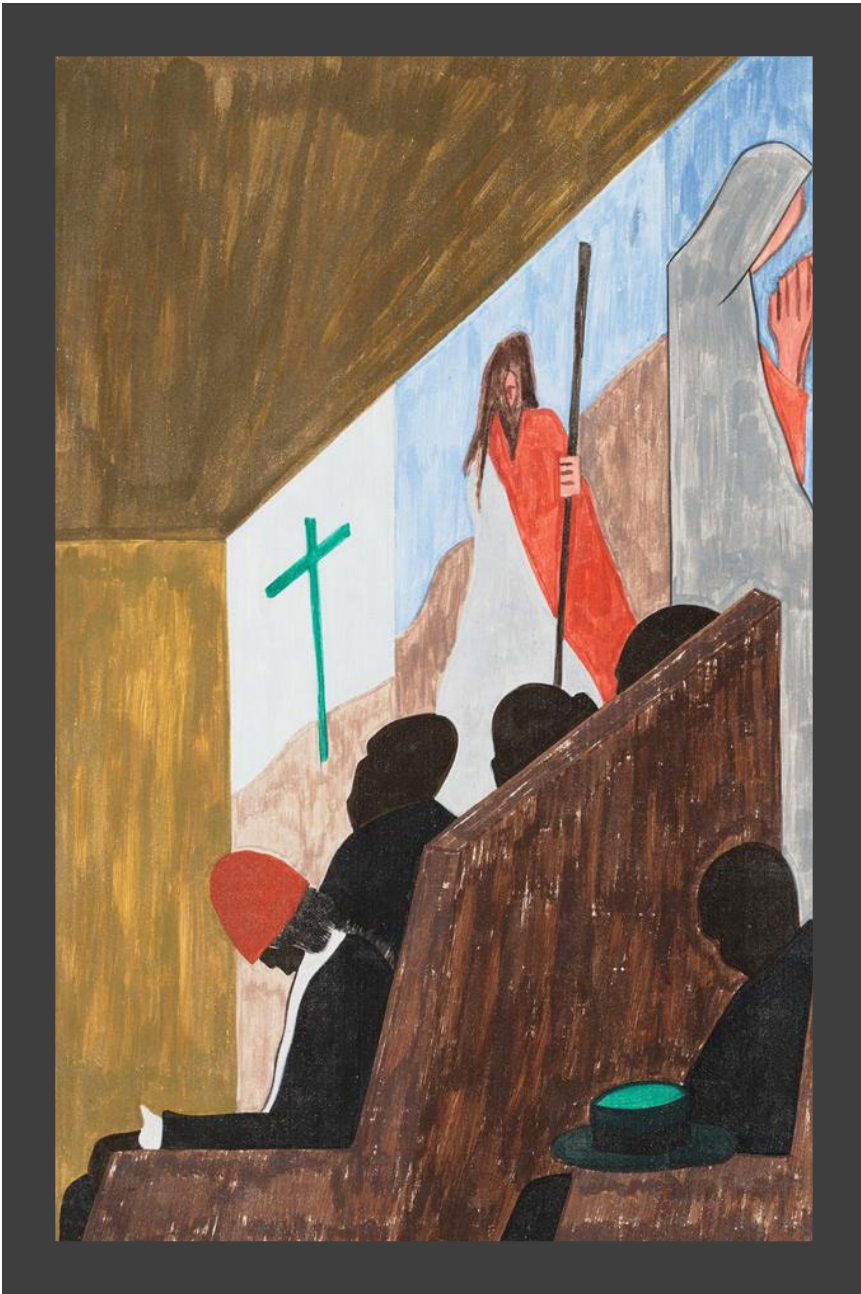


The Negroes who had been North for quite some time met their fellowmen with disgust and aloofness.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 54, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



One of the main forms of social and recreational activities in which the migrants indulged occurred in the church.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 55, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

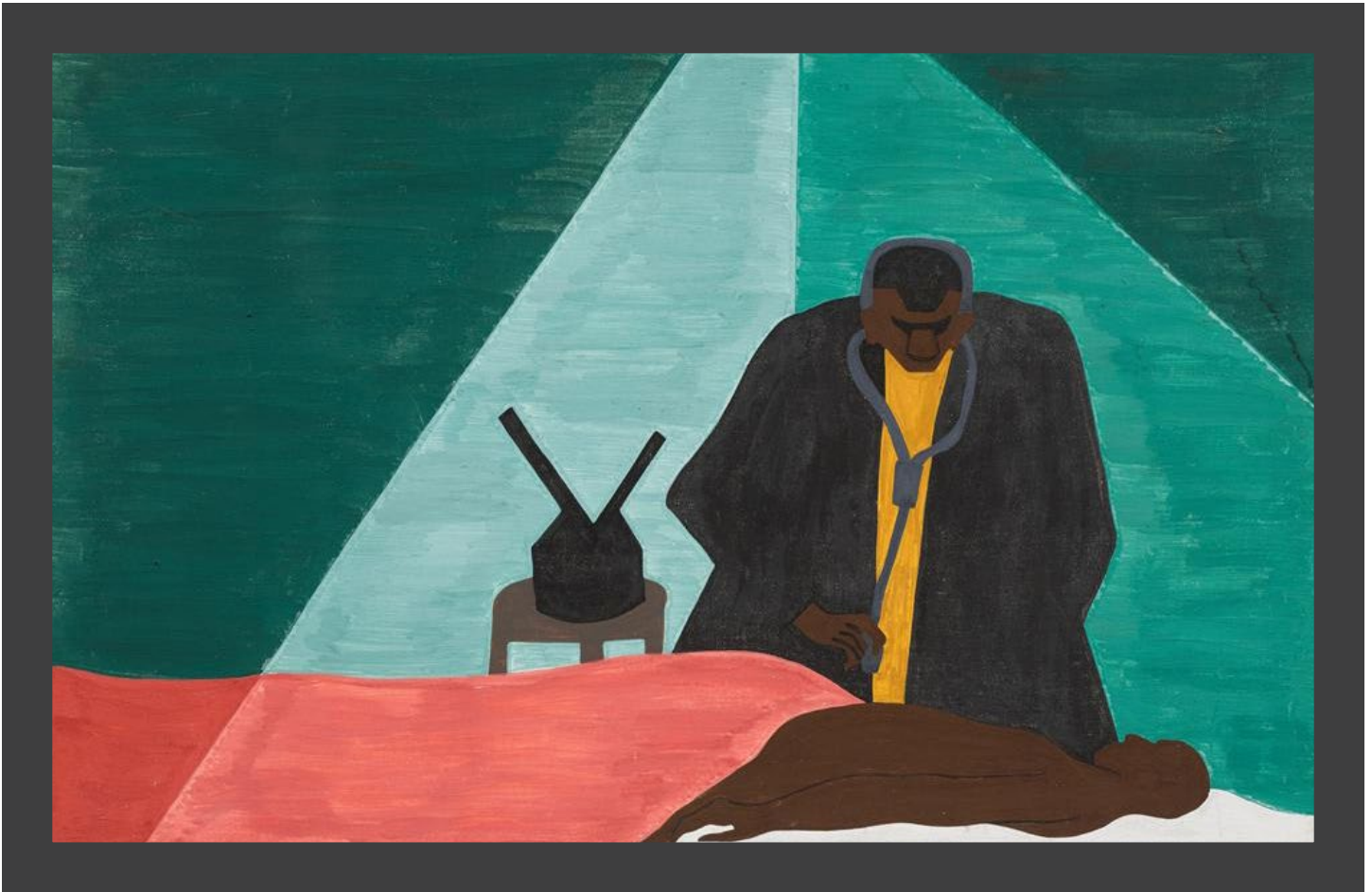


The Negro being suddenly moved out of doors and cramped into urban life, contracted a great deal of tuberculosis. Because of this the death rate was very high.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 56, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



Among one of the last groups to leave the South was the Negro professional who was forced to follow his clientele to make a living.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 57, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

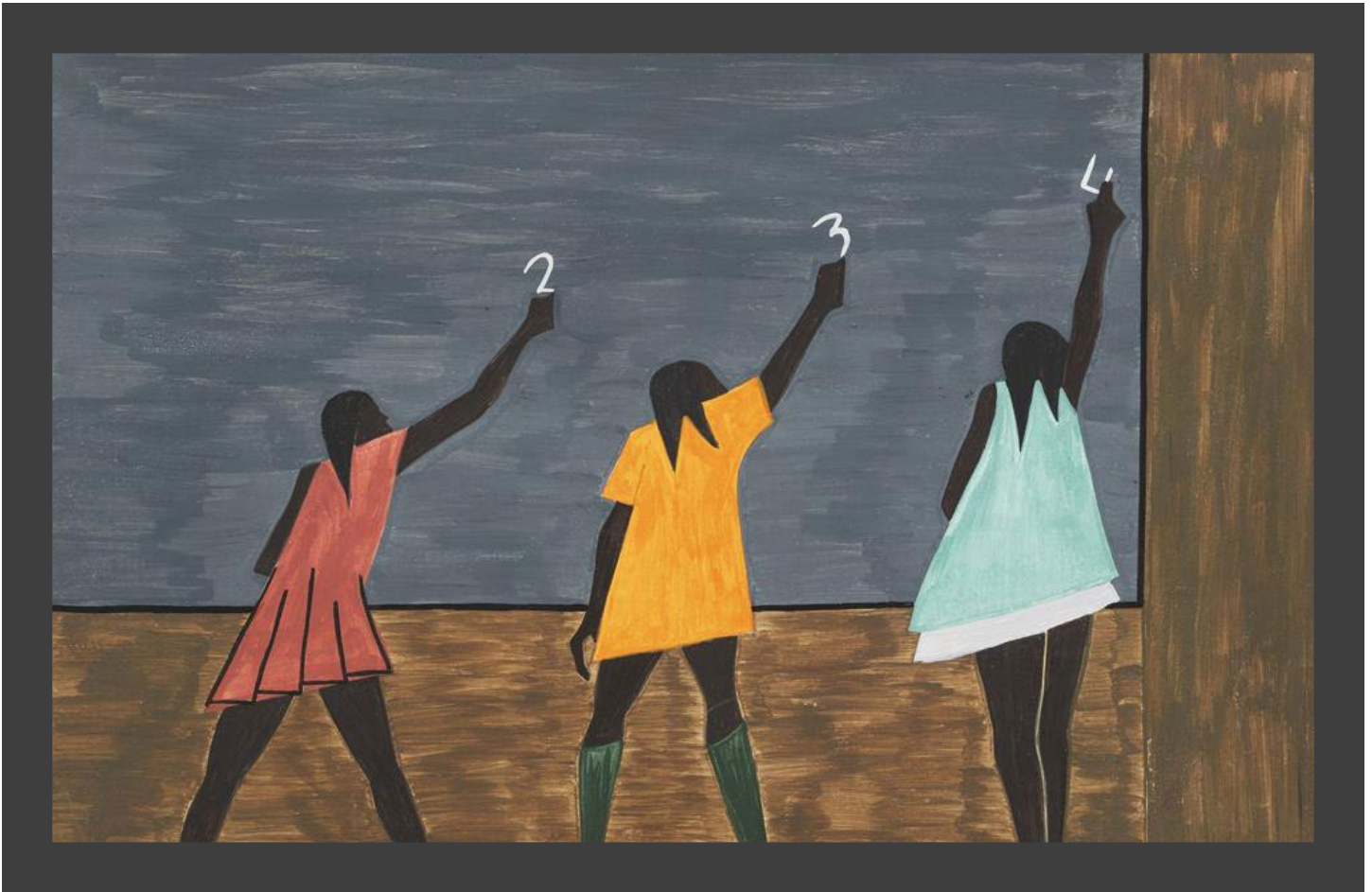


In the North the Negro had better educational facilities.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 58, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

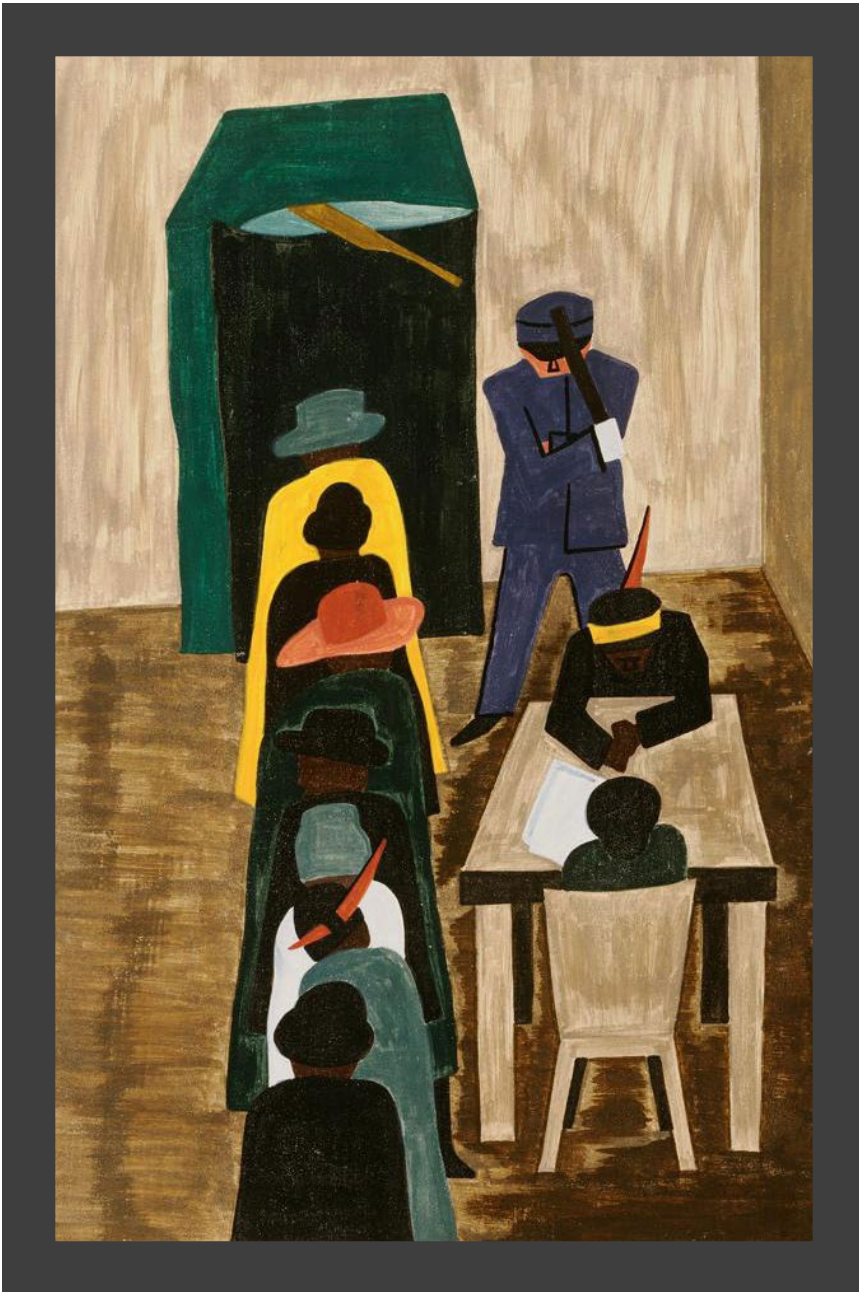


In the North the Negro had better educational facilities.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 59, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"

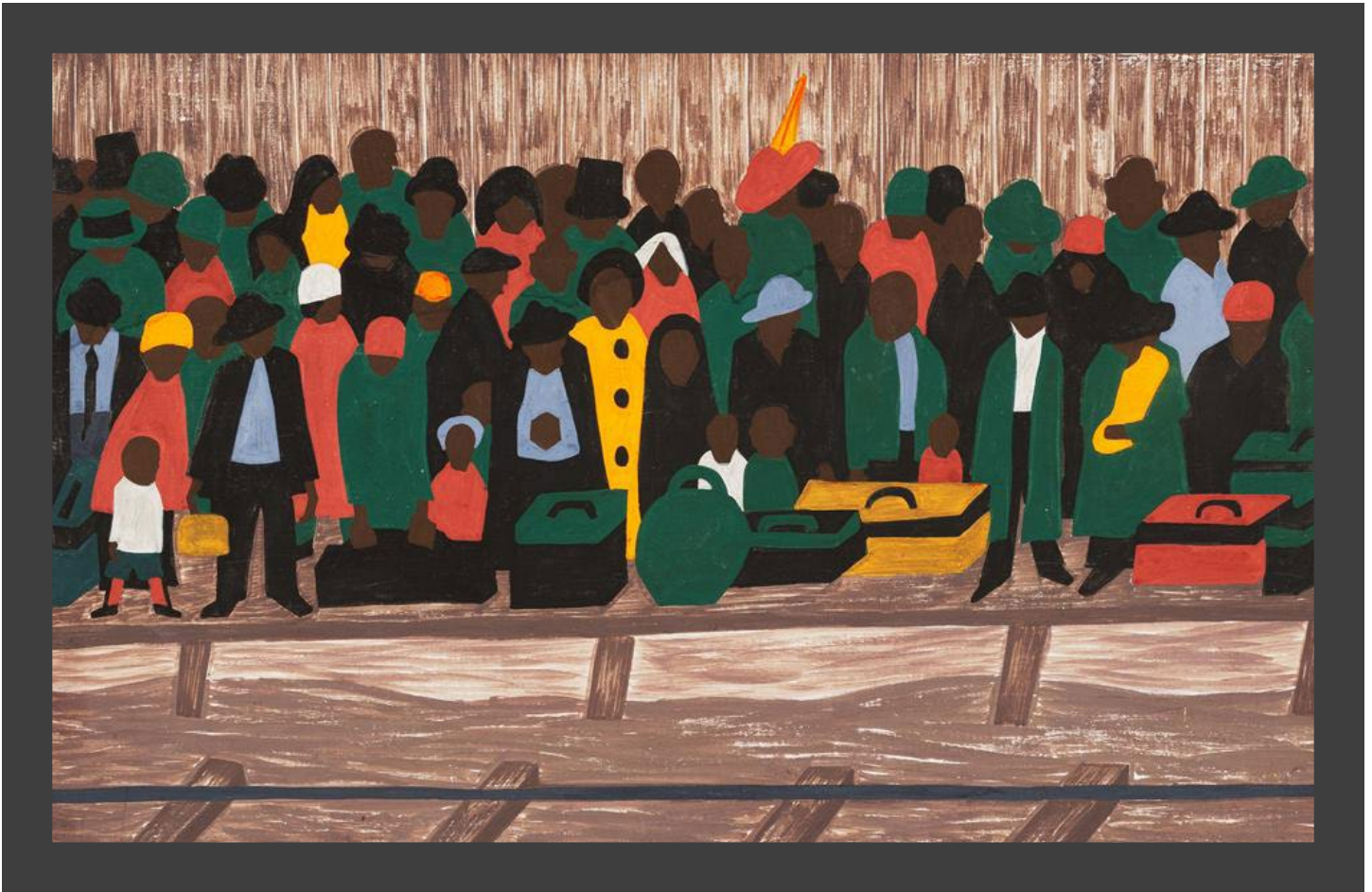


In the North the Negro had freedom to vote.

Jacob Lawrence

Panel 60, Migration of the Negro

1940-1941 | Casein Tempera On Hardboard | 18" x 12"



And the migrants kept coming.