

"We hope," Governor Agnew said, "to encourage more youngsters whose parents receive welfare to take summer jobs. Right now they may be reluctant to do so, fearing it will penalize their families' allotments."

"In addition," the Governor continued, "we believe this will cultivate an enthusiasm in employment and enable many young people not only to develop good work habits but to assist their families. Many of these youngsters come from large families and the money they earn can help defray next year's school expenses for several children."

The Governor also announced plans to undertake a study of the State's total employment picture.

"Right now there seem to be a substantial number of unskilled jobs available and a substantial number of unemployed. We're going to try to get to the heart of this problem," the Governor said.

The study will be conducted through the cooperative efforts of the Governor's Office, the Department of Employment Security and the Department of Welfare.

"Where unreasonable standards exist for unskilled employment, we hope to work with the employers to revise qualifications to a more realistic level. At the same time," the Governor said, "we want to assure the public that jobs are not going begging while able-bodied persons are drawing welfare."

Governor Agnew stressed the fact that the majority of welfare payments go toward assisting families with dependent children, to the elderly and the disabled. "But," the Governor concluded, "in this time of pressing fiscal problems, we owe it to the taxpayers to be 100 percent sure that there are no persons on the welfare rolls who could be working."

NEWS CONFERENCE

July 10, 1968

OPENING STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNOR

I have several announcements this morning that I think will be of particular interest to you.

The proposed Maryland Constitution which was defeated in the special election of May 14th included important provisions to facili-