



**HARVEST**—Cucumbers are being harvested now in many parts of the county. This group of workers was up early Tuesday morning working in a foggy field off the 401 bypass.

**Study Shows**

**Most Welfare Homes Fatherless**

The most recent study of families receiving welfare in North Carolina indicates that most of them are urban, black, and eligible for assistance due to the fact that the fathers are not in the home supporting their children.

The study was conducted by the North Carolina Division of Social Services as a part of a national study of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program by the National Center for Social Statistics.

The month the study was conducted was May 1975. During that month there were 183,772 children and adults receiving AFDC payments. Total payments for the month amounted to \$9,807,911 for an average of \$53.37 per recipient. The study was done on a statewide sample of cases.

In line with North Carolina's urbanization, the study showed that 70.4 per cent of the families

lived in urban areas and only 29.6 per cent in rural areas.

Not only are the majority of families urban, but the majority are black with this racial group making up 72.7 per cent of the families, whites 25.2 per cent, American Indians 2 per cent and other races only 0.1 per cent.

Contrary to popular belief, welfare families do not have more children than non-welfare families. The average AFDC family consisted of one adult (usually the mother) and only two children.

North Carolina's AFDC program does not provide assistance to families where both parents are in the home and they have no handicapping condition that prohibits employment. The children have to be denied the support of one or both parents due to disabilities or absence from the home. The study showed that 89.9 per cent of the fathers were absent

from the home. Reasons for this absence include 51.9 per cent not married to the mother, 23.5 per cent separated or deserted, 10.4 per cent legally divorced and 4.1 per cent other reasons such as institutionalization or armed forces.

Only 23.1 per cent of the families had court ordered or voluntary child support agreements.

Voluntary support agreements were met more fully than court ordered payments. Approximately 70 per cent of the voluntary agreements were at least partially met compared to only 30 per cent of the court ordered agreements.

The study indicates that even with the Work Incentive Program, 85.9 per cent of the mothers were not employed with only 8.6 per cent of them being incapacitated.

AFDC mothers are a little more educated than a few years ago. Still only 24.9 per cent have graduated from high school and only 4.1 per cent had one year or more of college.

All AFDC families are also eligible for the food stamp program, but according to the study, only 65 per cent were participating.

Another misconception refuted in the study is that welfare families own expensive homes and drive Cadillacs. The typical AFDC family lived in rented private housing with the actual amount paid per month for rent, fuel, and utilities averaging only \$61.18.

**Accent On Agriculture**

Two hundred years ago a small band of freedom-loving farmers ignited the spark that led to the Declaration of Independence -- the greatest charter of freedom ever conceived by man and the basis for a representative form of government and a way of life destined to become the envy of mankind throughout the world.

As we contemplate the Bicentennial of that momentous event, it is fitting and necessary that we pause to take inventory of our achievements as a free people, to determine where we have stayed from the concepts of our founding fathers and to reset our course for the decades ahead.

As Americans, we can be proud of our record. We have achieved the highest standard of living for the average citizen to be found anywhere on earth. We have more personal freedom than any other people. We have been generous in sharing our achievements with others throughout the world.

We affirm our belief in, and support of, a private competitive economic system, based on individual initiative, the private ownership of land and other resources, and the operation of a profit motive in the marketplace. We call for a reversal of the trend toward government ownership and operation of productive activities and services that can best be owned and operated by private enterprises.

We affirm our belief in a form of government in which as much power and responsibility as possible are placed in local and state governments.



We support a workable plan to restore fiscal responsibility to our national government, including a broad shift of responsibility and tax resources back to local and state governments. We support an amendment to the Constitution to require that Congress balance the budget except in a national emergency.

This Republic is also threatened from abroad by the forces of communist and socialist dictatorship that would destroy all we have achieved. It is the clear responsibility of the national government to provide for a military defense second to none. We insist that this responsibility be carried out and that our national leaders stop retreating in the advocacy of freedom and the defense of our national interest.



**SHREWD MOVE**—Misty checks over her holdings and tries to decide whether to build on Pennsylvania Ave. or purchase Marvin Gardens in a close Monopoly match. Either way, the game was temporarily held up until the player removed her feet from the bank.

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