

and towns deserve a more understandable and responsive Federal partner. We hope to make major organizational improvements at an early date.

Concurrently, a strong effort must be made to develop stronger relationships within the present or any proposed program content in the manpower field. As the President said in his message to Congress yesterday:

One of the priority aims in the new Administration is the development by the Department of Labor of a comprehensive manpower program, designed to make centrally available to the unemployed and the underemployed a full range of federal job training and placement services. Toward this and it is essential that the many federal manpower programs be integrated and coordinated.

I think this is a most important and serious responsibility.

As we work toward those objectives, we do so with the knowledge that our manpower programs are coming of age. They have grown to a size and scope that gives them strategic significance in our economics as well as social policies.

This significance is enhanced under current economic conditions. A strong job market makes it possible to move idle and underutilized human resources into productive activity. The prospect that this current high level of job demand will be a stable and continuing one lends internal strength to the manpower efforts.

I welcome the growing attention of the Nation's policymakers and of this committee to the contribution that manpower programs can make, with the growing and proud realization that manpower matters are now too important to be left only to the manpower experts.

(The news release referred to earlier follows:)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR: OFFICE OF INFORMATION

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION SURVEYED IN SLUM AREAS OF SIX LARGE CITIES

—Workers living in slum areas have an unemployment rate $2\frac{1}{2}$ times higher than the national average.

—Unemployment among teenagers is especially severe: 30 percent of slum youths are unemployed.

—Weekly earnings under \$65 were reported by 1 out of 6 full-time workers.

These are the highlights of the first Urban Employment Survey, a new data collection program established by the Department of Labor to examine the employment situation, barriers to employment, attitudes and motivations of slum area residents. Included in the survey are the Concentrated Employment Program areas of Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, and New York City.¹

The survey is being directed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics with the cooperation and financing of the Manpower Administration. The Bureau of the Census is collecting the information.

The first results of the Urban Employment Survey cover basic labor force information for all six slum areas combined for the 3-month period July–September 1968. Similar information covering a 6-month period for the 6 individual areas will be published later. Additional data for each area will become available later this year.

Here are additional findings of the Urban Employment Survey.

¹ The survey area in New York City includes additional target neighborhoods outside the CEP designated areas. The balance of the cities of Atlanta and Detroit are also included in the survey.