After just five months in office, four out of five New Jerseyans can name Brendan Byrne as Governor of the state. This 80 percent figure compared to 89 percent who could name former Governor Cahill in September 1971, when he had been in office for almost two years.

The New Jersey Poll, conducted by the Eagleton Institute of Rutgers University, also reported that 3 percent of the respondents thought Cahill still held the governor's chair.

Voters in the Garden State are more aware of the partisan makeup of the state government under the Byrne administration than they were when Cahill was Governor. The Poll reported that 76 percent of those surveyed correctly identified Byrne as a Democrat with 11 percent believing he was a Republican and the remaining 13 percent unsure. In 1971, only 66 percent correctly named Governor Cahill as a Republican, with 21 percent believing he was a Democrat.

New Jerseyans now also have a clearer perception which party controls the State Legislature. The Poll found that 53 percent knew the Democrats were the majority party in Trenton while 13 percent named the Republicans. In the second year of the Cahill administration, when the Republicans were in the majority in both the Senate and Assembly, only 41 percent knew of the Republican's control, while 28 percent thought the Democrats were the majority party.

"In both administrations, however," said Dr. Stephen A. Salmore, Director of the New Jersey Poll, "state residents were not well informed about the Legislature. In both 1971 and 1974 about a third of the respondents simply said they did not know...
which party was in control."

New Jerseyans also reported more interest in public affairs in general this year than last. Last year, 67 percent of respondents said they followed government affairs most or some of the time, while this year the figure has risen to 78 percent. "A year of Watergate, war in the Middle East, and the fall of many European governments have triggered this sharp increase in interest in political affairs," Salmore explained.

As a result of this increased interest in politics the number who follow national politics most closely has risen from 39 to 43 percent, while those primarily following international politics has increased to 17 percent in May from 12 percent last March. In contrast, those who say their primary interest is in state politics has only risen from 12 percent to 14 percent, and those who say they follow local politics most closely have fallen from 29 percent to 22 percent. "Apparently, nothing in New Jersey can compete with Watergate," Salmore commented.

The Eleventh New Jersey Poll was conducted by telephone from the Eagleton Institute of Politics, New Brunswick, N.J. between May 7 and 17. A scientifically selected random sample of 1021 New Jersey residents 18 years of age or older were interviewed.
TO: POLITICAL REPORTERS
FROM: STEPHEN SALMORE
SUBJECT: THE ELEVENTH NEW JERSEY POLL, RELEASE #6, MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 17, 1974

The questions used in this release are given below:

"Do you happen to know the name of the Governor of New Jersey? (Probe: What is it?)" (N.B. No names were suggested by interviewers)

- Byrne 80%
- Cahill 3
- Other 1
- Don't Know 16

"As far as you know is the Governor of New Jersey a Democrat or a Republican?"

- Democrat 76%
- Republican 11
- Don't Know 13

"Which party controls the New Jersey state legislature--the Democrats or the Republicans?"

- Democrats 53%
- Republicans 13
- Don't Know 34

"Some people seem to think about what's going on in government most of the time, whether there's an election or not. Others aren't that interested. Would you say you follow what's going on in government most of the time, some of the time, only now and then, or hardly at all?"

- Most of the time 48%
- Some of the time 30
- Only now and then 16
- Hardly at all 6
- Don't know *
(NOT ASKED OF THOSE RESPONDING "HARDLY AT ALL"):

"Which one do you follow most closely—international affairs, national affairs, state affairs, or local affairs?"

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>