Resurrection City Cool Peaceful & Dignified

WASHINGTON - (NPI) -- The Poor People's marchers have started their campaign off on the right foot by maintaining a nonviolent dignity that is commanding government officials'

Moving into "Resurrection City, U.S.A.," a shanty-town near the capitol building and the White House, the demonstrators are seeking Congressional introduction and approval of such anti-poverty legislation as a guaranteed annual wage or a "negative income tax" paid to the poor.

And so far, the marchers have won over several government officials to their cause by keeping their cool and demonstrating the respectability of their campaign.

Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey was one of those touring the marchers' encampment and giving them his endorsement. Sen. Charles Percy (R-Ill.), after visiting the city, urged his colleagues in Congress to heed their demands.

The fact that the marchers were camped near the capitol was in itself a victory. The demonstrators had thought the government would not allow them to set up their city in D.C.
Possibly in an effort to "Kill them with

kindness," federal officials authorized con-struction of the plywood city on the banks of the Potomac. As many as 3,000 souls are allowed to live at the camp site.

THEN, TOP local and national leaders began pouring into "Resurrection City" from all over the country. Including Vice President Humphrey, there were such visitors as Mayors Walter E. Washington, Washington, D.C.; Ivan Allen, Jr., Atlanta; and John Lindsay, New York.

The pleasantries exchanged between marchers and visiting dignitaries helped undercut one of the key features of the demonstration: a confrontation between the poor and "the establishment.'

Indeed, the officials seemed to be as much in favor of the poor people's demands as the poor, themselves. But what action might be taken was another story.

In any event, the marchers were hardly the bogeymen both they and their foes tried to picture them as being. Far from causing a public commotion, many--if not most--were content to erect their city and get to know one another.

For a lot of the marchers, it was a grand reunion of participants in the 1963 March on Washington, which was practically staged by the federal government itself.

And the 1968 March--while not staged by Uncle Sam--is being conducted similarly, with more blessings from the federal government than some demonstrators would have liked.

For the time being, at least, the marchers are not concerned with confronting the government or pressing demands.

Their immediate attention is turned to such problems as making food arrangements, having telephone lines installed, being sure the sewer-age system is in good working order, and arranging for transportation.

Providing medical services for those who have become sick or fatigued during the demonstrations is a big project in itself.

SCLC officials estimate that the total cost

of conducting the march is \$1 million.

AND THUS, in confronting the nation's "establishment," the marchers first had to set up their own "establishment." With equipment and facilities to watch out for, persons of all ages to feed, and the federal government breathing down their backs, the marchers are not likely to commit indiscriminate acts of violence and pillage -- as they too are vulnerable.

Rather, they seemed bent on conducting a dignified demonstration of their demands that this nation take concrete action to alleviate

poverty. They sent the troublemakers home. They are keeping their cool. That way they are advancing their own cause--rather than giving their enemies justifiable grounds to attack them.

Protest At The Polls

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The Atlantic Richfield Company has announced that Horace B. Edwards, of (5241 Marydell Dr.) Yorba Linda, Calif., has been named assistant controller for marketing in the company's new Products Division which will establish headquarters in New York City later this year.

Edwards joined Atlantic Richfield last August as manager of Special projects in the controller's department of the Richfield Division, Los Angeles, with an extensive background in systems engineering and engineering management. He is a mechanical engineering graduate of Marquette University. Edwards will move to New York in the

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