

Barringer Protest Due

Group Out to Halt Job Pending Employment of Minorities

7-1-63

Mass demonstrations at the construction site of the new Barringer High School will be staged Wednesday by the Newark Coordinating Council unless construction work is halted by that time, the council has announced. It is calling for a stoppage of construction work "until such time as Negroes and Puerto Ricans are engaged in all category of the building trades on this job."

The council made known its intent to demonstrate in resolutions it sent over the weekend to Mayor Addonizio, the Newark Human Rights Commission and Gov. Hughes.

George C. Richardson, the council's coordinator, said the demonstrations at Barringer were decided on after a "thorough investigation to determine if Negroes and Puerto Ricans were full participants and equally employed on this project."

He said the investigation disclosed that of about 200 building trades workers employed on the project, 12 are Negroes and there are no Puerto Ricans. Of the 12 Negroes, seven are laborers, four are carpenters and one is a brick-

Richardson said no Negroes are employed as electricians, plumber.

ers ironworkers, steamfitters and lathers. Declaring the Negroes on the job represent about only 6 per cent of the total work force, he said: "It is obvious that discriminatory hiring practices prevent Negroes and Puerto Ricans from equal employment opportunities."

The council's resolution demands that Addonizio halt work on the project and that he notify the contractors and unions involved that work will not be continued "until such time as Negroes and Puerto Ricans are engaged in all categories."

The council reiterated its previous announcement that it will conduct mass demonstrations at selected construction sites throughout the city July 10 if Addonizio does not adopt its plan for equal job opportunities.