A Beginning Is Made

The Civil Rights Bill Is Still in Jeopardy

But the Power and the Grace of Yesterday's Freedom March Was Felt Throughout the Land

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WILL LEAD TO THE TRUTH

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EXCLUSIVE ISSUE

Weary NW Marchers Start Return; Bus Due in Portland Sunday A.M.

By ALLEN HOFFARD

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Emmett and Pacific Northwest marchers boarded a homebound bound chartered bus at dawn Thursday after participating in Washington's historic march on Washington.

The civil rights demonstrators assembled at 5 a.m. for the return trip to the same bus which was plagued with mechanical difficulties and other delays on its eastbound journey.

They expect to arrive at their starting point, a Catholic Church in Portland, Sunday morning. Fifteen men will continue on to their homes in Washington.

Marchers Wed n e s d a y night got their only chance of the week to sleep in beds, as hours guests of members of the Christian Family Movement, a Catholic group, in suburban Washington's northern Virginia communities of Arlington and Alexandria.

The early revellers made the visits very brief, however.

The hospitality, which had previously been scheduled for Tuesday night, was arranged by James Hunt, manager of Portland's Catholic Bookstore, who served as "advance man" for the bus riders.

Having arrived more than 12 hours late, the Portland contingent entered Washington just in time for the march and went directly to the assembly area. They carried signs prominently identifying them as Oregon citizens. The march itself was unmarred by violence or other incidents, and was adjudged a major triumph for its sponsors.

Rep. Edith Green greeted some of the Portlanders Wednesday night at their suburban assembly point, Blessing Congregational Church in Alexandria. The marchers were to have met with Sen. Wayne Morse in his office Wednesday morning, but arrived too late to keep the appointment. Sen. Maurine Neuberger was in Oregon.

The bus riders were joined in the march by State Rep. Howard Willis (D-Gresham), who flew in from Methodist church meeting in Chicago.

Pastor Ralph Moore of Highland Congregational Church in Portland, Sunday morning. Fifteen men will continue on to their homes in Washington.

Chairman of the Portland Council of Church was chief organizer of the charter, but didn't make the trip himself. John Halladay of the Urban League and Richard Calf, a school teacher, were co-captains of the journey.

Hunt told the Portland Reporter that the Oregon marchers entered the good cheer despite the disappointment which had befallen them, and the fact that a round trip cross-country bus journey in one week by no means qualifies as a vacation.

In keeping with its practice of giving its readers the best and most comprehensive coverage of big events, the North- west Defender has this exclusive issue of the mammoth demonstration in Washington, D.C.

The Defender Publisher, Terry L. Black, and Editor, Jimmy Bang-Bang Walker, went to the Nation's Capital and wired special stories on the big event back for this big special issue. Readers patronize the advertisers in this, your greatest weekly. #1 The oldest Negro Newspaper in the Northwest; #2 The greatest and oldest Litho newspaper in the Northwest; #3 The only 6 column Negro Newspaper in the West; #4 The only newspaper in the world, where you can read, "Bang-Bang Talking."

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"However," he said "I am somewhat disappointed that Gov. Mark Hatfield issued no statement on civil rights on the day of the march as Mayor Schrunk did. But it is not critical of the governor because he has been on our side— for civil rights— all along."

WEBB WARNED; however that the NAACP intends to take action soon on what he termed racial problems in the Medford Ashland Grants Pass area. He did not specify the problems and what kind, nor the type of action contemplated.

He said an announcement on the subject will be made within a few days by the local NAACP's executive board.

OFF WITH A SONG go riders on SNCC's "Freedom and Jobs" bus to mammoth demonstration in Washington.
EDITORIAL

March Stirs Conscience of the World

Freedom—the sound and spirit of the word alike—reverberated yesterday across the grounds of the Washington Monument. At the end of the Mall, inside the great Memorial erected to his memory, the gaunt, grave, silent figure of the Great Emancipator sat and listened, remembering, perhaps, the words of other marchers for freedom long, long ago: “We are coming, Father Abraham, three hundred thousand strong.” Surely Abraham Lincoln yesterday heard the voices singing “Glory, Glory, Hallelujah,” demanding fulfillment at last of the promise for which he lived and died, and shouting with simple faith in themselves and in their fellow Americans: “We shall overcome... We shall overcome.”

They came from every portion of America. California had a throng there under a proudly held banner of the state. There was a delegation from West Memphis, Ark. The NAACP of Evansville, Ind., turned out in strength. So did the NAACP of Shreveport, La., and of Erie, Pa., and of Pittsfield, Mass., and of an endless catalogue of the towns and cities of the land.

Every kind and class of American was there. The Vermont Stone Cutters Association formed a goodly group. The Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workers of North America, the United Automobile Workers, the civil libertarians of every hue, the Protestants, Catholics and Jews, white men and black men, black women and white women, children and their parents and their grandparents, the humble and the great—all were present. America sent to that great meeting in her Capital the representatives of every one of her manifold aspects and estates.

It was part picnic, part prayer meeting, part political rally, combining the best and most moving features of each. It was a happy crowd, much more gay than grim, full of warmth and good feeling and friendliness, instinct with faith and high hope, united in a sense of brotherhood and common humanity.

It was a most orderly march, not with the precision of a military parade but with the order that grows out of a clear sense of common purpose, a fixed and certain destination.

No one could view that vast sea of faces turned upward toward the Lincoln statue without an awareness of commitment and dedication. No one could hear the scourging words spoken yesterday by A. Philip Randolph and Martin Luther King and others without a sense of guilt and grief and shame. No one could hear the tones of Marian Anderson’s deep and beautiful voice singing, “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands,” without profound emotion and involvement.

If the words spoken yesterday were heard by Abraham Lincoln at one end of the Mall, let us hope that they were heard by the Congress of the United States at the other end. For this was something much more than a mere outlet for emotion. Dr. King was altogether right in saying that "Those who hope that the Negro needed to blow off steam and will now be content will have a rude awakening if the Nation returns to business as usual. There will be neither rest nor tranquility in America until the Negro is granted his citizenship rights. The whirlwinds of revolt will continue to shake the foundations of our Nation until the bright day of justice emerges."

There is a magnificent opportunity at hand to cut it once and for all a cancer in America demeaning and degrading to all Americans. Not Negroes alone, not white libertarians alone but Americans in general marched yesterday—and must march in unity and in brotherhood tomorrow and tomorrow.
Sen. Morse, Rep. Green at Freedom March

Mahalia Focuses On Other Stars

FROM THE OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE EDITH GREEN (Democrat-Oregon)

When Americans of all races and creeds travel together throughout thousands of miles — it's demonstrably clear that we have reached that point where neither a wall of brick nor a Congressional wall of complicity will stop the march to freedom.

I regard today's demonstration as a commendable, logical and traditional avowal of protest. The demonstration is being carried on with a real spirit of love and the conviction that the right is the duty of all men to acquit themselves toward their neighbors and toward their country.

In this connection, I wish to pay tribute to the Negro American singers of our time, so many of whom have brought the Negro's struggle to the notice of the world, and have been his shining sentinels.

Miss Jackson, the blues singer, who in the words of the late Senator Robert A. Taft, Jr., as she stood this afternoon, "is the happiest soul I ever met, and the world is better for her presence." Miss Jackson has performed before hundreds of thousands, and has been a beacon in the path of the American Negro. Her voice has been heard throughout the land, and her message has been carried to every corner of the world.

I wish to say a few words about Miss Jackson. I have known her for many years, and I have always been impressed by her dedication to the cause of justice and freedom. She has been a friend and colleague in the struggle for civil rights, and her presence at this march is a symbol of her commitment to the cause.

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