Protest Meeting
Of Poor Slated

A mass meeting of the poor from six parishes has been called for 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 30, at Holy Rosary Gymnasium on Broadway Bridge Ave. to protest discontinuance of Acadiana Neuf, the official anti-poverty agency in the Lafayette area.

According to Carlton James, president of the Lafayette Parish Advisory Committee to Acadiana Neuf, 1,200 to 1,500 persons are expected to participate.

James said a march through the streets of Lafayette is planned but that participants from other parishes will come by motorcade.

Details of the program for the meeting are still incomplete but four to six speeches are planned. James said Congressman Edwin Edwards is among those invited. "He has asked that Acadiana Neuf be dissolved, so we would like to get his point of view," James explained.

The program committee is also trying to get either Sen. J. Luke LeBlanc or Sen. Edgar Mustin of Lafayette Parish to speak. To balance Edwards' views, someone else will speak on the advantages of the present poverty program, James said.

Commenting on what he expected the outcome of the meeting would be, James said, "We don't know what action the group will take, but we would like to have it come from the floor, from the poor themselves.

Further details of the meeting will be made public after the program committee meets early next week, he said.

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