

Workmen, Who Remain Unpaid, Still Cleaning Rock Festival Site

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BETHEL, N. Y., Aug. 27 — Nearly two weeks after 300,000 young people converged on a farm here for a three-day rock festival, workers are still toiling to smooth over the scars of mud, garbage and trash they left behind.

The workers are going temporarily without pay because of the financial crisis reported by the sponsors of the Woodstock Music and Art Fair and Aquarian Exposition. But their task will likely be completed before the wounds in this small village close.

Opponents of the fair have called a meeting in the Presbyterian Church here Friday night to encourage local residents who suffered damage to their property to bring legal action against the responsible parties.

"We might bring charges against the Town Board," said Richard C. Joyner, the owner of the town's general store, the postmaster and a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. He claims the five-man Town Board illegally bypassed the zoning board to grant a permit for the fair to be held.

The exposition's organizers planned on only 100,000 people a day. When a much larger number arrived, they jammed roads and fields for miles around the site and angered Mr. Joyner and some other businessmen and farmers here.

The crowd and persistent soaking thunderstorms also made a muddy wreck of the 600-acre pasture that the fair's officials leased from Max Yasgur.

At a meeting this morning the management told the laborers that their pay checks would be mailed to them and that they would give them enough cash to get home.

The Monticello Raceway in nearby Monticello claimed it suffered business losses of \$300,000 during the weekend of the fair because of the jammed highways.

It has instituted a damage suit for that amount against John P. Roberts, the 24-year-old president of the event's promoters.

In New York City today, Mr. Roberts met for about an hour with David Clurman, an assistant State Attorney General, who asked that the fair directors make refunds to several hundred tick-holders who say they never got in to see the show.

Mr. Roberts said that he would discuss the request with his partners. Mr. Clurman also asked Mr. Roberts if he had any information about the widespread distribution of narcotics at the fair.

"I told him that I really knew no more than I had read in the papers about that, but that of course I'd cooperate in any investigation," Mr. Roberts said.

A spokesman for the Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz's office said that it had no jurisdiction to investigate narcotics violations, but that it had been in contact on the matter with the state police and the United States Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs.