

Demos Denounce Welfare Plans

Washington

A spokesman for Congressional Democrats denounced President Nixon's human resources program yesterday as a "disaster."

The President meantime promised legislative proposals to put the accent on work rather than welfare for the poor.

Senator Walter F. Mondale, (Dem-Minn.) using equal broadcast time to rebut the President's radio speech of last Saturday, said the Nixon proposals would "eliminate 100,00 desperately needed jobs; end the federal aid for low and moderate income housing; slash health research, aid to education, medicare benefits for the aged; and abolish practically every effort to strengthen rural America."

The Mondale statement coincided with Mr. Nixon's news conference yesterday during which he pledged to send Congress legislation "to stop the unconscionable situation where it is more profitable for some people to go on welfare than to go to work."

The President gave no details, and said he could give no indication when the legislative proposal would be sent to the Capitol. But he

said he still considered as "the best solution to what I have termed the welfare mess" the plan he set forth in 1969 to put a floor under the income of families with children.

Mondale, in his radio speech "on behalf of the Democratic leadership of Congress," said Mr. Nixon's claim that the nation is investing more in human resources is based entirely on increases in the Social Security program, which is self-supporting through payroll taxes.

"Aside from Social Security, this budget is nothing less than a disaster," Mondale said in reference to Mr. Nixon's proposals for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

"While nearly 100 programs to help people would be destroyed, the defense and foreign aid budgets would rise dramatically, and not a single tax loophole for the rich would be closed," Mondale said.

Under the proposed budget, he said, hospital charges for many older Americans under medicare would be doubled, job training programs would be cut 29 per cent in two years, public service employment would be abolished, and aid to pub-

Top-Ranking Woman in HEW Quits

Anaheim

The highest ranking woman in President Nixon's first administration resigned her post yesterday, effective March 31.

Patricia Hitt, 55, Laguna Beach, announced her resignation as assistant secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare at a news conference.

"It was a very difficult decision," she said. "President Nixon made it very clear he wanted me to stay on and offered me several options."

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lic schools would be reduced.

Also, Mondale charged, Mr. Nixon is impounding "without legal authority" half the pollution control funds enacted by Congress over his veto. "Without consulting Congress, he is destroying the poverty program . . . by executive order he has ended virtually all of our housing and rural development programs."

Mondale said Mr. Nixon wants \$10 billion more for military and other foreign aid and \$8 billion for new Pentagon spending, "and we're told they may ask for \$7.5 billion more for the two Vietnams." *United Press*