

Wednesday, February 3, 1960

Student Strength Rises In Protest At Lunch Counter

Growing to a strength of 75 at one time, Negro college students today resumed their efforts to be served at a midtown lunch counter.

About a third of the students in the demonstration today were girls. A spokesman said they were all from A&T College.

Waitresses at F. W. Woolworth Co. ignored the group, many of whom remained in the store this afternoon. The students perused school books as they sat along the counter.

Store officials declined to comment when asked if service would be extended to the students.

Some students said they would return daily until they were served.

Four or five uniformed policemen kept watch in the store.

At A&T College, Dean of Men W. H. Gamble, said the college is continuing the investigation of student participation in the demonstration. He said the college has no authority to restrict student's private activities of this nature, however.

This is the third day the Negroes have visited the luncheon counter.

Shortly after the Negroes entered the store, a snack bar was closed down.

Store Manager R. L. Harris said the snack bar was not closed but that the waitress was relieving a girl at another counter who was at lunch.

Another waitress at the snack bar told a reporter that the bar was closed.

Dean Gamble said the students were not cutting classes during their uptown visits. He said the students said they "have been thinking about this for a long time."

An A&T student who identified himself as Roy Graham of Charlotte, a senior pre-med student, said the students "plan to visit one store at a time. . . . If we can get one store to start serving then the others may give some service."

A&T officials said they had no student registered under the name of Roy Graham.