

Aid Given Negroes' Protest

3 WC Students Join Sitdown

Three Woman's College students and Negro high school students joined Negroes from A&T College in a mass sitdown protest because of failure to secure service at the F. W. Woolworth Co. lunch counter Thursday.

And for the first time since the move began Tuesday, white teenagers and young men appeared on the scene and blocked the aisles and occupied many of the counter seats.

Near noon the Negro and white students began marching to the S. H. Kress & Co. store down the street to launch a similar sit-down.

Crowd Grows

As the day progressed more A&T students came and were joined by students from Dudley High School and Woman's College. Some estimates of the crowd ran as high as 300 persons, mostly students.

Two white youths were escorted out of the Woolworth Store by plainclothes officers after they began yelling and swearing.

Other abusive words were yelled at the Negroes in both stores but there was no physical violence.

Some members of the white group were heard swearing at the Negroes and calling them "nigger" and "burr-head." The Negroes ignored the remarks.

In Fourth Day

The movement began Monday when Negro college students began protesting the fact that they can buy all they want standing up in the store but are refused food service when they sit down at the lunch counter. The students maintain they will continue to sit daily at the counter until served.

A spokesman for the Negro group said yesterday that no plans have been made to converge on any other lunch counter or restaurant in the city. "We represent no organization, just a group of disgruntled students, and we plan to go about this thing in an orderly and Christian way," he said.

The three Woman's College students identified themselves as Genie Seaman of Orlando, Fla., Marilyn Lott of Washington, D.C., and Ann Dearsley of London, England.

"We felt it was our moral obligation to come down here," said Genie Seaman. They said they would appear at the store daily to support the movement.

Stores Advised

J. Melville Broughton Jr., attorney for N.C. Assn. of Quality Restaurants, has advised member restaurants that it is "your privilege to refuse to serve anyone in your private place of business." He advised members to use a trespass complaint if persons refuse to leave after being denied service.

Harper J. Elam III, city attorney, stated that there is no city ordinance to cover the situation, and state attorney general, Malcolm Seawell, has said that as far as he could determine, this state has no law which would prohibit serving members of both races at a lunch counter. But on the other hand, he said he knew of no law which would force a private business to serve anybody it did not choose to serve.

Business at both lunch counters was at a virtual standstill except for soft drinks and coffee served to whites.

About 5:25 p.m. the Negro group filed orderly out of the stores followed by the jeering white group. Outside, both groups quickly dispersed when police patrol cars drove up.