

Youths Pack Cafe Areas Of Stores

BY CHARLES L. WEST

CHARLOTTE Feb. 9 (AP)

—About 150 Negro college students crowded into the lunch counter seats at four variety stores here today in silent and peaceful protest against segregated service.

They followed the pattern set Monday in Durham and Winston-Salem and last week in Greensboro.

The cities, among the most liberal in North Carolina in the field of race relations, have no ordinances which bar the demonstrations as such.

The students here said they had no leader and asserted there was no organization backing their demonstrations here and in the other North Carolina cities, nor was there a liaison with the other cities.

The demonstrators appeared at the white-patronized lunch counters of the F. W. Woolworth Co., S. H. Kress & Co., McLellan Stores Co., and the W. T. Grant Co.

Woolworth, Kress and McLellan closed their lunch counters and Woolworth later closed the store. The Grant store kept its luncheon counter staffed but served only white patrons, ignoring the Negro students.

The McLellan store's lunch counter for Negroes continued to do a booming business.

The Negro demonstrators, students at Johnson C. Smith University here, appeared to be taking their directions from, and reporting to, Joseph Charles Jones, a divinity student who recently testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

Jones, an articulate young man who defended the United States against propaganda attacks at the Communist-sponsored World Youth Festival last summer, denied he was either leader or spokesman for the demonstrators.