

## STUDENTS PROTEST

# Lunch Counter Strikes Spread To High Point

[Elizabeth City hit by demonstration, Page A10;  
Woolworth firm given proposal, Page A2.]

**BY ALMETTA COOKE BROOKS**  
Greensboro Daily News High Point Bureau

**HIGH POINT, Feb. 11**—The sitdown protest of Negro students against segregated eating practices moved into High Point today with what is believed to be the first demonstration on the part of high school pupils.

Some 30 students crowded around the closed lunch counter at downtown Woolworth store here and about 20 more stood around the counter at McLellans. At both places they were greeted with cards on the counters announcing that the facilities were "temporarily closed."

### Leave Quietly

The student started entering the stores about 4:30 p.m. and left quietly when they were closed at the regular time at 5:30 p.m. Woolworth's locked the doors to the store shortly after the students entered, letting in no new customers and unlocking the doors to let shoppers out as they completed their purchases.

The Woolworth lunch counter at College Village Shopping Center was closed about 6 p.m. when four Negro youths took seats at the counter.

The Rev. J. Elton Cox, pastor of Pilgrim Congregational Church and vice president of the High Point branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said the students were chiefly juniors from William Penn High School here. A few participating in the sitdown, he said, had already graduated from high school.

The Rev. Mr. Cox said a group of students approached him last week and asked his advice on such a move. He said that he told them he thought it would be in the "realm of human dignity." He also said the students had asked advice on legal matters but declined to comment as to any advice given them.

Also in Woolworth's with the students were the Rev. Fred

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 1)

# High Point Negroes Protest

(Continued from Page One)

Shuttlesworth of Birmingham, Ala., an official of the Alabama movement for human rights, and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the Rev. Douglas Moore, of Durham, also a board member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

All three men denied that today's sitdown had been organized by adults or any official organization, saying it was a spontani-

ous movement on the part of the students. The Rev. Mr. Shuttlesworth said he was here to make a talk in Greensboro tonight and one in Winston-Salem tomorrow night. He called today's demonstration a "strike for democracy" and both he and Moore predicted that similar events will soon be taking place throughout the South.

During the demonstration several police officers stood around the two stores at the request of the management but found no cause for any action. Both police and the stores had been warned earlier today to expect the students around 2:30 p.m. It was not clear late today just how word of the planned sitdown had leaked out.

## Doors Locked

As the students walked into the two local stores "closed" signs were placed on the counters and store personnel left them.

At McLellan's the stools by the counter are not fastened to the floor and they had been pulled away from the counter. The Negro students stood around the counter until the store's closing hour. McLellan's continued to let customers enter and leave the stores whereas Woolworth's locked the doors to the store

shortly after the students entered. At Woolworth's the students sat at the counter reading textbooks and talking.

None of the students would say whether or not the demonstrations would be continued. Neither was a statement from store managers available late today.

Management at both stores said no decision had been made as to whether lunch counters or the stores would remain open or closed tomorrow.

Shuttlesworth said the demonstration in High Point would have started Wednesday, but he was ill with the flu.

## Critical

Shuttlesworth, in an interview with newsmen, was highly critical of Gov. Luther Hodges. He said Hodges had told people in Europe and elsewhere that Negroes were satisfied with the progress made toward integration.

"That's not true," said the Alabama Negro. "Our people here will not be satisfied until every vestige of discrimination is gone."

He said Negroes "have been watching these counters for generations," and finally made the move to break down racial barriers at them.