

# Negro Pupils Crowd Store; It Closes

[Other sitdown news, Page  
A17.]

Greensboro Daily News High Point Bureau

HIGH POINT, Feb. 13—The third demonstration—in as many days—by Negro high school students in protest over segregated food service caused the Woolworth Store in downtown High Point to close today.

When the store opened this morning there were several hundred Negro students at both entrances waiting to get in. Upon entering the store they found the lunch counter roped off and merchandise displayed upon it along with signs announcing that the lunch counter was "temporarily closed." Each counter stool contained boxes of Valentine candy.

The Negro students lined up in an orderly manner behind the stools. In contrast to the demonstration yesterday afternoon when the counter was left open—with all stools occupied by white high school students, the aisle in front of the counter was kept open enough for shoppers to get through.

When the management asked the Negro students to move out of the way to allow store personnel to mop they did so, and then returned to their posts after the floor had dried.

The store management said orders from regional headquarters had been to keep the store open today. However, it was closed at noon on advice of police.

White students and both white and Negro adults crowded into the store as spectators. Police said they advised the management to close the store after seeing a number of groups of white men arriving—many of whom have long violence records here.

The demonstrations, believed to be the first to be staged by high school students, started Thursday afternoon when Negroes attempted to get food service at both McClellans' store and Woolworth's.

The counters were promptly closed. The McClellans counter has never reopened. Yesterday around 4 p.m. the Negro students arrived at Woolworth's to find counter seats occupied by white high school students who did not leave their seats until after the Negroes left the store at 6:20 p.m.