

Group Asks Race Issue Opinions

Public Invited To Send Letters

The chairman of the newly formed Greensboro Advisory Committee on Community Relations yesterday called on city residents for letters expressing their views on recent racial problems.

Councilman E. R. Zane, chairman of the committee appointed Friday by Mayor George Roach, said the letters would be used solely for the purpose of assisting the committee in determining the attitude of the people. He said each letter would be kept confidential.

Zane said in the meeting Friday that if the committee members agreed, he would first invite a committee of three from the Negro colleges to state their position. Later, the advisory group would invite the representatives of the F. W. Woolworth Co. and S. H. Kress Co. to express their views.

Alternatives

Zane mentioned five alternatives:

The situation to remain as it is.

The two establishments to remove seats and serve everyone standing.

The two establishments to serve everyone seated.

The two establishments to reserve separate areas for seated white people and seated Negroes.

The two establishments to discontinue serving food.

Want Individual Opinions

Zane said yesterday he felt that writing letters would be the best way for the committee to find out the opinions of the community. "The nine-member committee can't possibly contact everyone in the community personally," he said.

He urged those writing, to write as individuals and not as groups or organizations. "The person should only let his views be known to us. We are not interested in why the person feels the way he does," Zane said.

He said the letters may be addressed to any members of the Advisory Committee or to Post Office Box No. 1627.

Other Members

Members of the committee, other than Zane, are Councilman David Schenck, Arnold Schiffman, O. L. Fryman, Howard Holderness, James A. Doggett, W. M. York, Bland Worley and Councilman Waldo Falkener.

Zane was instrumental in securing an agreement from students of A&T College to discontinue their sitdown demonstration several weeks ago at the two downtown variety stores.

The students had staged the demonstration in protest to the practice of the stores not to serve Negroes while seated at their lunch counters, although they are served at a standup counter in one of the stores.

The demonstration, which started in Greensboro, spread to other cities of North Carolina and into several other Southern states.