

Two Fined For Assault

Two Greensboro men today were given 18-month suspended sentences and fined for assaulting a Negro student during the city's recent lunch counter sit-in incidents.

Judge Z. H. Howerton Jr. fined James Clifton Palmer, 49, of 914 Oak St., \$50 and costs and Lawrence Ashley of 806 Pisgah Church Rd., \$25 and costs.

The sentences were suspended for three years.

Both men were charged with assaulting Donald C. Fuller, 26-year-old A&T engineering student, with a burning piece of paper as he sat in a chair at the counter of Woolworth's last Feb. 5.

Fuller, a former Baptist minister of Fayetteville, said that neither Palmer nor Ashley harmed him with a burning object. He said that Palmer stuck

a match close enough to him that it would have harmed him if a detective had not appeared.

Detective E. R. Medbury said that conditions in the store were crowded when the incident occurred. He said that Palmer was leaning over a Negro student when he arrived on the scene. He said he arrested Palmer as he walked away. He noted that Palmer's wrist was hot when he apprehended him.

Fuller testified that Ashley picked up a napkin from the floor and lit it from a match.

Another Negro student, Miss Barbara Stewart of Bennett College, told the court that Ashley dropped the burning paper under Fuller's chair.

Ashley said that he did not see Palmer at the counter and that all he did was knock burning paper from Fuller's coat.