

More Negro Protests Expected In Florida Capital

By Associated Press

Law enforcement authorities were alerted today for further sitdown demonstrations in racially tense Tallahassee, Fla., while eating facilities at a Virginia store were integrated for the first time—on a standup basis.

Memphis, Tenn., reported its initial snack counter sitdown yesterday. There were demonstrations in Georgia, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia, picketing in North Carolina and court action in South Carolina and Florida.

A Tallahassee Negro leader, Rev. C. A. Hunter, announced plans for another sitdown in the Florida capital, scene of demonstrations the past five Saturdays and a near riot a week ago.

But the heads of two state universities, white Florida State and Negro Florida A. & M.,

urged their students to refrain from further mass protests against segregated eating places.

Florida's Gov. Leroy Collins expressed deep concern over the racial strife in some cities and announced he would make a statewide television and radio talk on the tense situation Sunday night.

At St. Augustine, Fla., city officials and businessmen set up a bi-racial committee to discuss human relations in line with President Eisenhower's recent recommendation. The decision followed a brief outbreak of violence during a lunch counter sitdown Thursday.

The vertical integration occurred at a Suffolk, Va., variety store lunch counter which was opened to all comers—Negroes and white persons—after all the stools were removed. Crowds of Negroes jammed the

counter. The store closed two weeks ago after a series of sitdown protests.

Twelve Negro youths sat down at a snack counter for whites in a Memphis, Tenn., variety store but were refused service. The store closed and the youths left before police arrived.

Groups of Negro students staged sitdowns at a variety store in Norfolk, Va., and at two variety stores in Bluefield, W. Va. Negro high school pupils picketed two downtown stores in New Bern, N.C., but did not enter. Had they done so there might have been trouble. Police said the lunch counter seats were occupied by white youths apparently waiting for the Negroes to show up.

Five Negroes were arrested at a downtown Savannah, Ga., department store when they refused to leave a restaurant.

Three Negroes were arrested at the same store earlier this week.

At Baltimore, a Negro college student and the white manager of a restaurant were arrested on complaints growing out of a sitdown demonstration by about 100 Negroes. The restaurant then closed for the day.

Fifteen Negro college students pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct charges at Columbia, S. C. They admitted taking part in a stick-swinging rampage at a white drive-in restaurant March 5 during which two parked cars were battered by sticks and bricks and a white woman injured by broken glass.

Trial of 15 of the 388 Negro students arrested during an anti-segregation parade Tuesday began in Orangeburg, S. C.

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MORE NEGRO ACTION SEEN

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They were charged with breach of the peace. State prosecutors said they plan to try the others in groups of 15.

At Tallahassee, 11 Negroes were convicted of disturbing the peace in connection with a Feb. 20 sitdown. Eight went to jail rather than pay \$300 fines.

Glenn G. Bartle, president of Harpur College at Vestal, N.Y., suggested his students raise \$1,000 to pay fines of Southern Negro students convicted in sit-down demonstrations rather than picket three variety stores.

In London, England, the committee of African organizations called on President Eisenhower to order release of Negro students it said were arrested for protesting against what it called apartheid in Georgia and South Carolina. Apartheid is the term for complete racial separation as applied in South Africa.