

Savannah Pickets Ignore Mayor's Plea

BY UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL
Negro pickets ignored a plea Saturday by Mayor Lee Mingle-dorff to end a protest boycott movement in Savannah, Ga.

Mingledorff asked that all picketing and measures of force be halted in an effort to ease racial tension in the Georgia city. Negroes have been boycotting Savannah merchants in protest against segregation and racial discrimination for several weeks.

Many Savannah merchants have reported their business is being hurt. Several incidents of violence have occurred and anti-boycott picket lines have been thrown up by members of the pro-segregation White Citizens Council. Mingledorff and other city officials have said other measures may be necessary. The State Executive Department has assigned Georgia Bureau of Investigation agents to investigate the demonstrations and boycott movement.

Mingledorff hinted earlier this week that the city may order arrests of demonstrators without

requests by store managers. A new ordinance described as "designed to halt intimidation of merchants or citizens who patronize them" has been drawn up. Mingledorff also suggested requiring pickets to register and obtain licenses.

A similar boycott movement by Negroes protesting discrimination in merchandising and employment policies began in Atlanta, Ga., Friday with Negro picket lines at several supermarkets near the downtown area.

A group of sign-carrying Negroes picketed the city hall in Charleston, W.Va., Saturday calling for an end to discrimination at public places in the West Virginia capital.

THREE GREENSBORO STORES PICKETED BY NEGROES

A small group of pickets paraded in front of three downtown stores in Greensboro for four hours Friday afternoon as they continued the protest of lunch counter segregation started in February by A&T College students.

Pedestrians along South Elm Street appeared to pay little attention to the pickets, but one young Negro boy was heard to tell a companion not to enter the S. H. Kress & Co. store to buy anything.

The Kress store, the F. W. Woolworth Co. store in the next block and Meyer's Department Store have been picketed for their refusal to seat Negroes at lunch counters in the variety stores and the restaurant in the department store.