

# Winston Seeking Plan For Lunch Counter Mixing

WINSTON-SALEM, May 24 (AP)—A 20-man goodwill committee has begun working out a plan whereby lunch counters in several Winston-Salem variety stores will be desegregated in the near future.

The committee, named by Mayor Marshall Kurfees, Monday adopted a recommendation by its five-man subcommittee that the store's lower racial barriers at lunch counters.

The subcommittee had discussed the situation with Negro and white leaders and businessmen.

After the committee made known its recommendation, the variety stores agreed to withdraw the racial barriers.

Ten Negroes and 10 white persons made up the committee, which studied the Negro protests for 15 weeks. It consisted of industrial leaders, educators, a minister, doctor, lawyer and others.

Winston-Salem's action comes 2½ months after lunch counters here were first closed in the wake of Negro sitdowns protesting segregated facilities at the food counters. Similar demonstrations were held over the South after beginning at nearby Greensboro.

Committees studying the protests in Greensboro and High Point also recommended desegregated lunch counters, but merchants in those cities disagreed.

The Winston-Salem committee in a statement expressed appreciation for the city's patience, and said it had confidence "everyone will continue to exercise the same restraint and good judgment in this matter as they have in previous undertakings involving community relations."

One Woolworth variety store manager, Herman A. Warren, disagreed. He informed the store's Atlanta District that he would retire rather than desegregate lunch counters in the store he manages. He told Woolworth officials, "If my choice lies between desegregating against the wishes of my customers and retiring from the company's employ, then I must choose to retire." Warren, 58, has been with the company 37 years.