

Protest Is Made Against NAACP

WINSTON SALEM, July 10 (AP)—Leaders of the lunch counter sit-down movement in Winston-Salem charged today that they have been "let down as far as moral and financial" support is concerned" by the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Carl Matthews, leader and organizer of the local sitdown movement, charged that the

statement issued Saturday by Charles McLean of Winston-Salem, state field secretary of the NAACP, was not correct.

McLean's statement said the NAACP expects to spend \$50,000 to cover expenses of sitdowns in North Carolina and that most of this sum has already been spent. He also said the local sitdowns have cost the NAACP between \$8,000 and \$7,000. There are still cases pending against 21 Wake Forest and Winston-Salem Teachers College students.

Matthews said he thinks the public has been led into thinking that the NAACP has "supported us (protest leaders) fully. I don't think the public knows we spent personal money without being reimbursed."

He said the local branch is now reimbursing leaders, but that "no effort to pay protest bills was made until after a letter of protest was written to Roy Wilkins on July 3." (Wilkins is national executive secretary of the NAACP).

Matthews' July 3 letter to Wilkins, which was undersigned by other protest leaders, listed these grievances against the local NAACP branch:

1. NAACP has shown no concern about the protestors as individuals.
2. Our good faith in the local NAACP branch has been destroyed.
3. The local branch has performed in such a manner that resentment, discouragement, and disgust has been developed in our ranks as youthful Negroes.
4. We have been let down as far as faith, moral and financial support is concerned and we have not been supported as the public thinks.
5. Our efforts to emerge as future civil rights leaders have been overlooked and credit has not been given where credit is due.
6. We have carried the major burden of this protest and the sacrifices that we have made have been ignored.

The letter also said: "To those who have destroyed our faith, we feel that they have also destroyed the aims and objectives of the national office and our intentions and desires are to focus attention on the negligence and inadequate leadership of the Winston-Salem branch."

"We feel we will be forced to unite and work as one nucleus to destroy bias, prejudice and discrimination, if we focus attention on the deception within our own midst and not continue to cover it up."

Signers of the letter in addition to Matthews were Donald Bradley, Andrew M. Hughes, Jake Brown, Everette Dudley, Patricia A. Tillman, Pauline L. Boston, Jeanett Brooks, Algemena Giles, and Gwendolyn Thomas.

Matthews also charged that "we have not received all of the money that was taken up for the protest movement in Winston-Salem—not to mention contributions supposedly received from the national office.

"The national office has supplied Winston-Salem with legal assistance but no money has been received to finance demonstrations or any other project," he added.

Matthews said, "no moral support was given the protestors during the protests. And, after courts were desegregated, no congratulations or words of encouragement were offered to the youth who had made the sacrifice."