

Sit-In Supporter Roughed Up

GREENVILLE, S. C., July 18 (AP) — White spectators roughed up a white man who was the spearhead of a group of Negroes staging lunch-counter demonstrations today at variety stores here.

The Negroes started the demonstrations in dissatisfaction with a delay in the trial of eight Negroes charged with disorderly conduct after a sit-in at the public library Saturday. The trial had been scheduled for today.

Police took the man, 24-year-old Charles Helms of Atlanta, Ga., into protective custody. He had led the group of Negroes to seats at a white lunch counter.

There were no visible injuries on him, but his glasses

were lost in the scuffle. Helms said he was able to ward off most of the punches thrown at him.

"I was slapped around," he said, "but I've been hurt worse playing softball."

Helms identified himself as a graduate of Davidson College and ministerial student at Union Theological Seminary, New York, and said he had been in Greenville since early June, working with Negro churches here.

He pointed out William E. Connor of Greenville as one of the white men involved in the scuffle, but Connor denied taking a punch at anyone. No charges were filed immediately.

Detective Chief L. W. Ham-

monds of the Greenville police said he believed Connor to be a private detective, although Connor described himself as a farmer.

Hammonds said he had information that three automobiles loaded with Negroes and two whites came to Greenville from Atlanta early today. He said the group was present in the courtroom and accompanied the demonstrators.

The detective chief also said police headquarters received an anonymous telephone tip Sunday night saying there was to be an attempt to blow up the home of Donald Sampson, a Greenville Negro lawyer representing the eight Negroes charged in the library demonstration.