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EXTRA

# REGISTER

"The ... of College News"

EXTRA

VOLUME XXXI No. 9

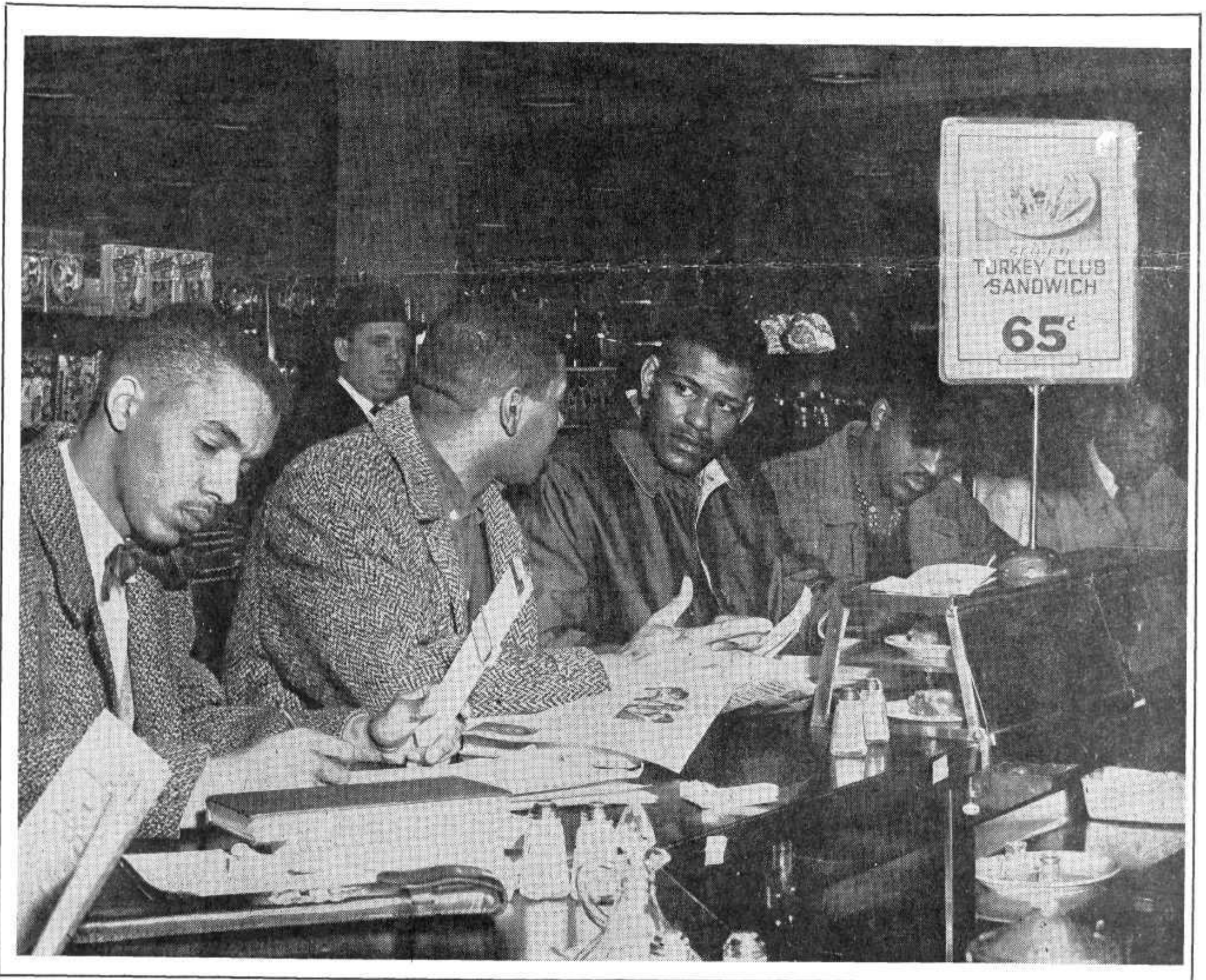
THE AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE, GREENSBORO, N. C.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1960

FOR SERVICE

Reprinted by Special Permission — The REGISTER Staff, February 1, 1960

# Students Stage Sitdown Demand



## Get In Study Chores

Students from A&T College began Monday afternoon what they called a "passive sitdown demand" for service at the customer lunch counter at Woolworth's downtown five and dime store in Greensboro. Shown above are five students who while they sit are getting in a little study time.

The counter has approximately forty stools, and at times during the third day (Wednesday, when this photo was made) there were only three or four seats left vacant by the students.



**Rozier**

**Action For Justice Lauded**

Several students here have engaged in what they term a passive demonstration protesting the failure of the F. W. Woolworth dime store downtown to offer service to Negroes at the luncheon counter.

It has been stated by Woolworth's front office in New York that they do not control local policy on matters of any kind. They state that the local store's policy is to "abide by local custom" in regard to matters involving the races.

In view of the fact that the heads of the chain indicate they will go along with any change in such policy, dictated by a corresponding change in local custom, then it would seem that it is left with the local manager here to come to some conclusion, or at least confer with these students in an effort to liquidate the problem.

There has been local editorial comment to the effect that the "sit down" demand for service, which went unheeded, served the cause of race relations badly." This is obviously a pessimistic stand intended to cast a shadow of "intimidation" on the movement.

The group has stated that they hold no resentment toward the company, but "hopes for a mutual understanding of the gross inequality and discrimination placed by one American upon another American who happens, by the Will of God, to be of another color."

Also, in evidence to the fact that the students are allegedly within their rights to seek fair treatment is the support they are beginning to receive from students of local white institutions. It must be realized by our elders, both white and colored, that it is the students of today — both white and colored — who will occupy the positions they now hold.

Since this is inevitable, then these youth should have something to say now about the country — the world that will be in their hands in the very near future.

The time has indeed come when we must all face up to the facts, and realize that America can not continue its present position of leadership in world affairs with the stigma of race prejudice and discrimination on the one hand, and grin-in-the-face tactics on the other. The season is here now.

There is no longer place in America for second-class citizenship and first-class jeopardy.

**".....Prepared To Sit It Out"**



**What It's Like At Woolworth's Lunch Counter**

By BILLY SMITH

From my observations, it isn't that the white patrons mind standing up and being served at the same counter, but sitting down next to Negroes is unheard of in a segregated society.

There were several incidents that I observed, in the following sequence:

- (1) One white patron came, sat down, and asked to be served. The waitress immediately served him. During this incident he even asked for the sugar and I quote: "Pass me the sugar, please." I gave him the sugar, he thanked me in a courteous manner, finished his meal, and left.
- (2) A couple of white women came in, sat down and were asked by the waitress what they would have. They told her and were served promptly.

The time has come that the young people take up this issue as the origin of what's to come in the future.

This is a Christian movement not inspired by any outside organization and you as students can believe me when I tell you this will benefit every one of us who sit at the Woolworth counter, that abstract something, worth more than I have ever encountered.

I talked with several of my friends while seated at the counter and only a couple of time asked for a cup of coffee and doughnuts. The waitress ignored us and kept serving the white customers. However, this is no great surprise to me because I have been exposed to segregation at lunch counters for 15 years and the situation is still predominately unchanged.

**People, Aggies & Woolworth's**

By ERNEST L. JOHNSON, JR.

**On The Question Of Food And Service  
A Case Of Aggies And F. W. Woolworth**

Wandering Aggie: I thought I would take a walk uptown in order to purchase a valentine greeting for my girl friend.

After reaching the Square, I decided to see the "Gene Krupa Story" which was playing at one of the local theaters. After coming out of the theater, I decided to cross the street and spend the remainder of my money for a valentine greeting for my girl and then get something to eat.

After purchasing the card, I sat at the counter and ordered a steak dinner and a glass of milk. After eating my food, I paid the waitress and proceeded back to Aggeland. Things To Remember About College Days: The day the Four Freshmen Strolled into F. W. Woolworth and Company and sat down without being asked to get up.

Here Nor There: Add names that should get together: F. W. Woolworth and A&T Students; news reporters and the manager of Woolworth.

Biting Bulldog: Now I wonder where I could have been when they passed that law? I mean the one requiring Aggies not to sit down at the lunch counter in F. W. Woolworth. Oh, yes, it all comes back to me now. It must have been while I was away attending the Convention of the Society Opposed to Cushioned Seats at Lunch Counters.

Whatever Became of: The TV cameras, the photographers, the news reporters, and the on-lookers that are usually present during the morning demonstration? It seems as if all of this disappears during the evening.

**Wire To Editor**

Editor of the Register:

Congratulations to students for the very worthwhile endeavor in the Woolworth protest.

Clarence Funnys '59  
Brooklyn, New York

**Schedule Of Activities**

February

- 5—Special Movie, 6:00 P.M.
- 7—Dr. Helen Edmonds, professor of history, NC College, will speak at 6:00 P.M. in Harrison Auditorium
- 9—Lecturer: Dr. James F. Bruce, 10:00 A.M.
- 10—Lyceum Program, 8:00 P.M.
- 12—13 Women's Sports Day Association Meeting on campus.
- 14—Worship Service, 11:00 A.M.
- 16—English Emphasis Week Program, 10:00 A.M.
- 18—Modern Dance Program, 8:00 P.M.
- 19—Special Movie, 6:30 P.M.
- 20—Basketball Game
- 22—Rabbi Fred I. Rypins speaks to classes representing The Jewish Chautauqua Society
- 23—Rabbi Fred I. Rypins will speak at 10:00
- 24—Harrison Players Production
- 25—Harrison Players Production
- 26—Special Movie, 6:30 P.M.
- 28—Worship Service, 11:00 A.M.

March

- 1—4 Final Examinations, Winter Quarter
- 4—Special Movie, 6:30 P.M.
- 5—7 Registration for Spring quarter
- 7—Lyceum Program, 8:00 P.M.
- 11—Special Movie
- 13—Worship Service, 11:00 A.M.
- 13—Annual Choir Concert, 7:00 P.M.
- 15—Honor's Day Program
- 18—Special Movie, 6:30 P.M.
- 20—Capping Exercises, 5:00 P.M.
- 25—Special Movie
- 27—Worship Service, 11:00 A.M.

April

- 1—High School Band Festival
- 1—Special Movie
- 1—3 Women's Week Activities
- 8—Special Movie
- 10—Easter Cantata Service
- 12—Easter Program
- 15—18 Easter Holidays
- 22—Special Movie, 6:30 P.M.
- 24—Worship Service
- 29—Special Movie, 6:30 P.M.

**What Is CIAA For?**

Even while A&T is striving for better relationship with other schools in the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association conference gross injustices are being directed toward the school.

Student leaders here have recently met, along with administrative heads, with a similar group at North Carolina College in an effort to curb acts of violence at athletic events between the two schools.

Last Friday night at Hampton College, Va., during a basketball game, one player from A&T's team was severely beaten while in the act of defending against a field goal attempt by Nathaniel Trader, a star player on the Hampton team.

Hubert Evans, the victim was so badly beaten by Trader, his teammates and fellow students that it was necessary for him (Evans) to remain in Virginia in a hospital for two days before he was finally brought here to the college infirmary, where he still lies in pain.

The question is, What Is The Purpose Of The CIAA?

The time has come when officials of this conference must face these issues. Of all the incidents of this nature which have occurred in recent years not a single school has faced the threat of suspension or probation. As long as the conference does not act solidly on these matters they will continue to occur.

Stealing a school mascot or victory bell is one thing, and assault and battery is another.

In no white conference would a school whose players and students committed such an act would the school be allowed to participate in post-season activities — tournaments, bowl games, etc., for a period of less than three years.

The only time this sort of action will cease will be when participating schools have the fear that they will be reckoned with.

**Tick, Tick, The Fatal Final**

By CLEVELAND BLACK

Tick, Tick, Tick, goes the fatal final exam clock. Will it catch you? Many ideas and attitudes about the finals have changed since the fall quarter. Will the clock alarm and catch you sleeping?

There are many noticeable attitudes among the students. For instance, only the other day a fellow student in the canteen said, "I have been very conscientious this quarter, keeping up with assignments and lectures. I came to college in order to get an education and that's what I intend to get. I shouldn't have any trouble with the final exams; only a process of reviewing will be necessary."

Coming out of the canteen on the steps, another student said, "Final exams, only two weeks off, boy! Will I be glad! Exams are so much fun because we won't have to go to classes."

Turning the corner toward Murphy Hall, still another student said, "Well I guess I'll get with the all-night lamp burners and it won't be


no sweat. But I hope it won't be like it was the Fall quarter, "the lamp went out while I was taking the finals."

Before entering the cafeteria, an organization president said, "I think tests and grades are artificial standards of measuring one's knowledge or ability! But if I hadn't put too much time arguing about the system, I would have known the physics equations by now."


In the lunch line two girls were talking and one said entreatingly, "Nancy, don't forget. We'll pull the same trick we did last quarter. I'll be standing in front of Hodgkin Hall and please don't forget. If you do, the spring will catch me on the farm."

Sitting down to eat, one student said quietly to himself, "I am failing it's true but I'll pass; I am going to sacrifice a little. I'll make it — I know it!"

Tick, Tick, Tick, Tick; Only two weeks.



**The A&T College REGISTER**



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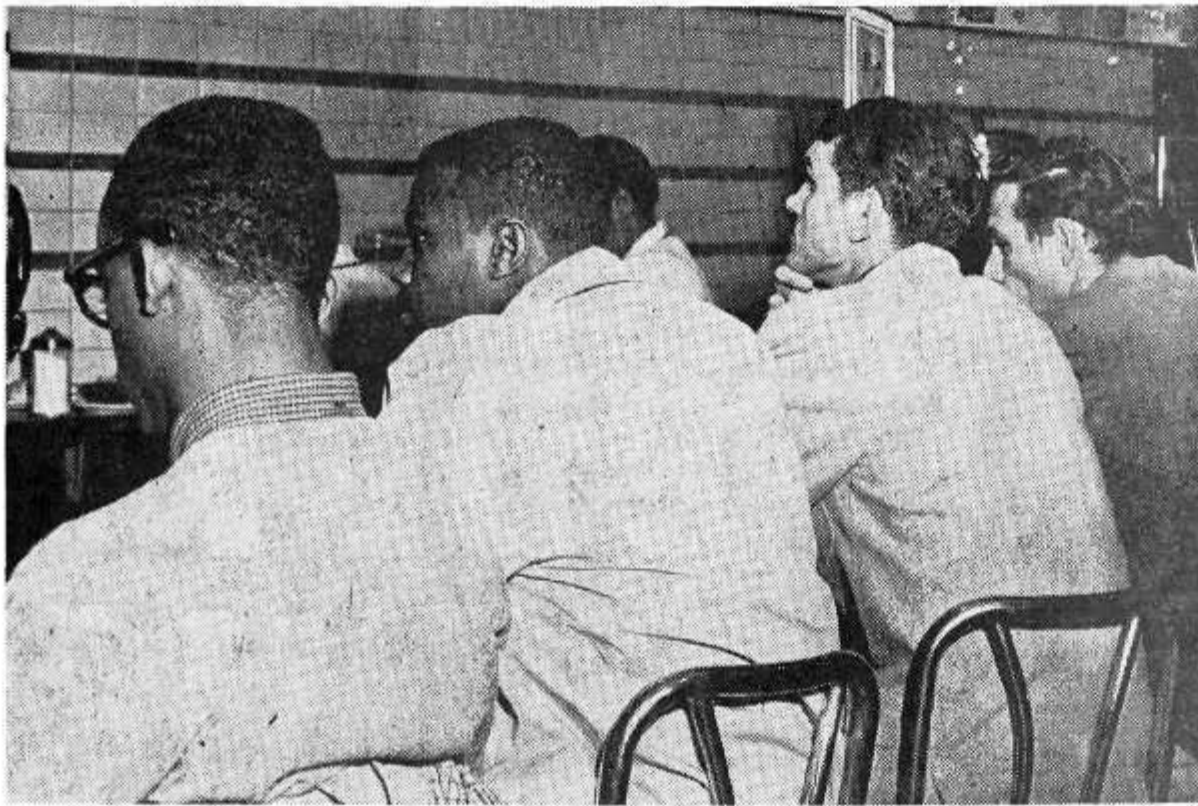
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# Students Hit Woolworth's For Lunch Service



A contrast. Here are shown two Negro students who wait in vain at the Woolworth lunch counter for service, while two white patrons have their orders filled by white waitress and Negro assistant. (both partially hidden behind counter).

## Freshmen Group Stages Sitdown Demonstration For Food In Dime Store

By ALBERT L. ROZIER, JR.

Four freshman students of this institution started Monday afternoon what they termed a "passive demand for service" at the lunch counter of a downtown five and dime store.

According to Ezell Blair, leader of the group, he and three other students — Franklin McLain, David Richmond, and Joseph McNeill — went into the store at approximately 4:30 p.m. on Monday, purchased small articles from a counter near the lunch bar and took seats at the lunch counter.

### TALK WITH WAITRESS

Following is a dialogue of the initial conversation between Blair and the waitress behind the lunch counter:

Blair: "I'd like a cup of coffee, please."

Waitress: "I'm sorry. We don't serve colored here."

Blair: "I beg to disagree with you. You just finished serving me at a counter only two feet from here."

Waitress: "Negroes eat on the other end."

Blair: "What do you mean? This is a public place, isn't it? If it isn't, then why don't you sell membership cards? If you do that, then I'll understand that this is a private concern."

Waitress: "Well you won't get any service here!"

After this conversation, said Blair the waitress left them and went to the other end of the counter.

Immediately following this conversation, however, he stated that a Negro girl, a helper on the counter, confronted them, saying, "You are stupid, ignorant! You're dumb! That's why we can't get anywhere today. You know you are supposed to eat at the other end."

### GROUP IGNORED

After this brief encounter, the students said they were completely ignored. When they asked questions, they were not answered.

"I told the waitress we'd sit there until we were served," said McNeill. She said nothing. Policemen came in and stared at us and walked up and down the aisle, but said nothing to us. We figured it was

an effort on their part to frighten us away, but we stayed until 5:30, when the store closed," he continued.

The group said they tried to talk to the manager of the lunch counter and when they were refused audience, asked to speak with the manager of the store, but were denied this, too. They said that during the entire time they have been there, they have not so much as seen the manager.

### OTHERS JOIN IN

The next morning, Tuesday, February 3, a group of approximately twenty students — including the freshman initiators of the demonstration — returned and took seats at the counter.

They entered the store at 10:30 a.m. and remained throughout the day. They were not served, the waitress stating that "it's a store regulation — a custom."

Blair stated that the demonstration was originally planned for two or three weeks; but that now, "We are preparing to continue to sit for as long as is necessary — until we're served."

## IN 'SIT-DOWN'

# Two Leaders Are Greensburgers

## Blair And Richmond Are Locals

The chairman of the Student Executive Committee for Justice, along with another member of the Four Freshmen, is a local boy — a resident of Greensboro.

Ezell Blair and David Richmond have "lived in Greensboro all our lives and have watched the thing all along, with intentions of doing something about it eventually."

The other two original members of the 'Committee' — Franklin McLain and Joseph McNeill—are also "southern" boys, if Washington, D. C. can be considered southern. That's where McLain is from. The fourth member — McNeill — is from Wilmington, N. C.

### 'The Four Freshmen'

The Four Freshmen said that they had been planning to launch their demonstration for three or four months. "It was no spontaneous action on our part," McNeill said. "We have a definite purpose and goal in mind, and with God on our side, then we ask, 'Who can be against us.'"

Considerable interest has been created in the fact that this demonstration was not staged by out-of-state students from northern states. A&T has many students from the upper eastern seaboard, and it has been noted that very few, if any, of these students are actually even jumping on the bandwagon.

### No Violence

Blair has stated that while they solicit the support of all students, from A&T as well as from other area schools, they will not tolerate anyone who is not sincere and sym-



Shown above are local citizens of the city who have apparently joined in the crusade begun by freshmen students of A&T College. The patron on the right is the only student seated at this end of the lunch counter.

pathetic with the movement. They have vowed only a 'passive', orderly demonstration.

At this point, there has not been any disturbance in the store. The students simply sit there ignored, being refused service, and do their studying right on the counter. Blair stated at a meeting in an off-campus location that they have written letters to the President of the Woolworth Chain in New York stating their position in the matter.

A number of white students from neighboring colleges were also present at this meeting. They stated that they were sympathetic with the movement and were willing to give whatever support they could, if no more than moral support.

### 'Time For Change'

The two Greensburgers — Blair and Richmond — claim they have watched their parents live under this system through the years. They stated that they are "tired" of

the complacency and fearfulness of the older members of the Negro race, and that they no longer want to be subjected to this sort of "humiliation" and definitely do not want their children to be victims of it.

"Therefore, we feel that now, while we are young, we will undertake to do something about it. They don't separate our money from that of white patrons. It all goes into the same cash register. We feel that when we are shopping in the store and feel the need for refreshment at the lunch counter we should not be denied this service."

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"IN NEAR FUTURE"

# Students Plan To March On Other Stores In City

The 'Sit-Down' campaign, it was learned Wednesday evening is in the process of being spread to other stores in the Greensboro area.

Leaders of the group say that their campaign is not one aimed especially at Woolworth's but rather, aimed primarily at a matter of principle. They state that they hope their actions will draw more students into the campaign in sufficient numbers to afford a number of similar such movements at all stores in the area with policies similar, or identical to Woolworth's.

This was brought out in a meeting at which several white students from institutions in the city of Greensboro were present. These students have expressed the desire to take an active part in the campaign. They joined in the meeting, which was held at an off-campus location, and made many suggestions in regards to proposed tactics to be used in the future by the group.

The 'Committee' did not state the time nor the specific stores they plan to strike next, but indicated that it would be in the very near future. They did indicate, however, that these other demonstrations would get underway "as soon as reliable and competent students had been recruited for this purpose."

## Spokesman Quotes 'Local Policies'

New York, Feb. 3 — (UPI) — A spokesman for the F. W. Woolworth Company said today it is the Five and Dime Store Chain's policy to "abide by local custom" in regard to segregation of eating facilities in its stores.

The company said it had received no official report on a sitdown strike staged in its Greensboro, N. C., store by Negro college students seeking to be served at its lunch counter.

The spokesman said he was not familiar with local custom in Greensboro, but that if eating places are now segregated by custom and any group succeeds in changing the custom, "we will of course go along with that."

## Or Hold Your Peace

# Chance Of A Lifetime! Suggest New Rules

WILHELMINA E. HARRISON

Speak Now or For The Next Two Years Hold Your Peace ! ! ! ! ! You've probably been complaining to yourself and authorities that the rules are too strict. Some of you say that girls should be permitted to ride in cars or they should have longer calling hours.

Now is your chance to voice your opinions and desires in the making of rules and regulations that will govern YOU for the coming two years.

If you have a recommendation to make, write it down, and back it up with a reason, then drop it in one of the suggestion boxes placed in the various dormitories.

Freshmen, sophomores and juniors are especially urged to send in ideas and suggestions, for these rules will directly affect you. Seniors — since you are the four and five year individuals — we're counting on you to fill up these boxes with recommended changes that might have made your stay here more enjoyable. (Even though you won't benefit directly, you can feel happy knowing that your suggestion or idea added to the welfare of your fellow Aggies.)

Actually, this little handbook could be considered as the "governing factor" for A&T students. If you go to see the bursar, he'll show you the handbook — Mr. Cunningham does the same and the deans of

## Whites Join In 'Sit-Down'

From all indications, the sitdown demand has caused much talk, not only among Negro colleges, but the white colleges as well. A&T students were very much surprised to find one of their neighboring white institutions working so faithfully and cooperatively to push this demonstration.

When asked if the students at this white institution would support the move, a spokesman said the students are behind it 100 per cent and they are willing to occupy seats with the Negroes as they carry out their demonstration.

These white students were refused service when they tried to obtain food; and from the looks of things, F. W. Woolworth is denying its lunch-counter service to anyone who looks like a college student.

Favorable comments came from the white students concerning the orderly and well-behaved A&T students. They especially praised the responsible people who are behind it all.

Students from this white college are soliciting the help of other white colleges in order to help with this demonstration.

As you may expect, there were many questions asked by these students, such as, "How did this come about?" and "Why was Woolworth chosen as a target for this demonstration?"

Students of A&T who are in this movement need help and cooperation; and if this is a hint of things to come, then this demonstration may really mean something to students of all the local colleges and the citizens of Greensboro.

men and women make the same reference.

Let's all join in making this handbook what we would like for it to be by SPEAKING NOW OR HOLDING OUR PEACE FOR THE COMING TWO YEARS.

## Pre-Registration Begins Monday

Pre-registration will begin Monday, February 8, and will end at approximately 12 noon Saturday, February 13.

In pre-registering, students must report to their faculty advisers, presume that they will pass all courses they are now taking, and follow the following procedure:

- (a) Work out a spring-quarter schedule free from conflicts.
- (b) Transfer this schedule in ink to schedule cards obtained from the faculty adviser.
- (c) Have adviser to check for conflicts and to sign the cards immediately below the last course listed.

Each student will be given a manila envelope. He should print at the left corner of it his student number, his name, and the school of the college in which he is enrolled.

These cards are to be surrendered to an attendant in the photo room, and pre-registration will be completed.



Prize Trophies

Miss Jacqueline Bell, "Miss A&T" displays a few of the attractive trophies which will be at stake at the 15th annual CIAA Basketball Tournament to be held at Greensboro's Memorial Coliseum, February 25-27.

Miss Bell, a native of Jackson, N. C., will be one of the hostesses to visiting players participating in the big dribble derby.

## Summer Job Directory Available

The new enlarged 1960 annual SUMMER PLACEMENT DIRECTORY, the largest and most comprehensive listing of actual summer jobs, projects, and awards is now available. Copies can be examined at most University Placement or Dean's offices, college and public libraries, and school superintendents' offices.

This unique DIRECTORY completely revised each year, is particularly prepared for teachers, professors, librarians, and college students. Jobs for which high school seniors may also apply are clearly indicated.

Some of the over 12,000 summer earning opportunities listed throughout the United States and many foreign countries include an opportunity to be a recreation director of Washington's Olympic National Park; joining a group of young people from many nations on an archeological excavation to expose an ancient temple in France; and acting with a Bardstown, Kentucky summer dramatic group in "The Stephen Foster Story".

This year's DIRECTORY offers many special student training programs and openings of a permanent nature in hundreds of firms such as Chemstrand Corporation, Addressograph-Multigraph Corporation, Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Co., and the Ingersoll-Rand Co.

Study projects, camp positions, jobs and apprenticeships with summer and music theatres, and work at resorts and dude ranches are some of the other varied offers made to students and educators. Many branches of the U. S. Government throughout the country have also requested their openings to be included.

All openings have been submitted directly to the INSTITUTE and include job descriptions, dates of employment, necessary qualifications, number of openings, salaries, and the names and the addresses of the employers. Helpful information is given on how to apply for positions and each DIRECTORY contains a sample resume to assist applicants applying for their first job.

The regular price is \$3.00. However, students and teachers writing on their school stationery can obtain this year's employment guide for only \$2.00 from THE ADVANCEMENT and PLACEMENT INSTITUTE, Box 99N, Station G, Brooklyn 22, N. Y.

## Many To Compete

# Women's Sports Day Set Here Feb. 12-13

More than 100 college girls from Virginia and North Carolina will participate in the annual Women's Sports Day to be held at A&T College on February 12-13.

The student majors in physical education and members of chapters of the Women's Athletic Association at six colleges in the two states, will compete in six events. The events include: badminton, volleyball, basketball, paddle tennis, square dancing and relay racing.

Mrs. Ernestine Compton, adviser to the A&T chapter and in charge of local arrangements, explained that the competitions will be conducted by several teams in each event composed of representatives from each of the colleges. The colleges will not compete against each other.

Representatives from the following colleges will participate: Virginia State College, Petersburg, Va.; Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.; North Carolina College, Durham; Livingston College, Salisbury and Bennett and A&T Colleges, here; Winston-Salem Teachers College is appearing as guest institution.

Competitive activities get underway early Saturday morning and will continue to 4:00 o'clock. All events are to be held in the Charles Moore Gymnasium. The public is invited.

Business sessions and committee meetings for the Women's Sports

# Campaign Here Is No Precedent

By CLEVELAND M. BLACK

The present "sit-down" movement against a mid-town F. W. Woolworth store here is similar to other incidents which have happened throughout the United States.

For instance, one of Lexington, Kentucky's large restaurant chains has worked out a plan of "progressive integration" because of occurrences similar to the situation prevailing here.

In South Carolina, a group marched on the Greenville Airport in protest of the Jim Crow service there.

A Durham group, denied service at the Durham bus terminal's main restaurant, joined in a delegation to Washington, D. C. to take part in a MASS demonstration urging speedy integration.

In Atlanta, Negroes won the right to use the facilities of the Atlanta Airport Restaurant when Judge Boyd Sloan ordered desegregation.

And now Greensboro has entered the struggle for restaurant equality. Only the future knows what will happen.

Success or failure? Only time will tell.

Day Association are set for the early afternoon on Friday, February 12. The program concludes with the annual banquet set for Murphy Hall on Saturday evening.

## Get To Know The Groundhog

February 2, is known as Groundhog Day in the United States. This is the time when the Woodchuck or Groundhog emerges from his winter's sleep to observe the approaching of spring.

The Woodchuck, which is actually the Groundhog is a North American Rodent and is called a Groundhog or American Marmot. This rodent is found from Nova Scotia to British Columbia and Alaska and in the United States from North Dakota South to Oklahoma and eastward to the Atlantic.

As a rule, the Groundhog is 20 inches in length with a brownish or reddish gray in color. Its body is heavy set possessing a short tail with strong claws adapted for digging. His source of food is from grass and other vegetation.

If the Groundhog sees his shadow, he retires to his quarters for six more weeks of winter, but if the day is cloudy, he remains above ground. There is little doubt as to the possibilities of the Groundhog seeing his shadow in Greensboro. Enough sunshine was present to melt a block of ice within minutes.

Visit

# THE HALF MOON

Cafeteria

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