

Group Urges Segregated Facilities

The North Carolina Defenders of States' Rights Inc. issued a statement last night calling on merchants in the state to preserve segregated "facilities" in their stores.

In the release, it is charged that Negroes who have been staging sitdown protests at lunch counters have been breaking state law at the instigation of "agitators" from outside North Carolina.

The statement was released by Lucius M. Cheshire of Hillsboro, a director, for the board of directors. It was delivered to the Daily News by the Rev. James P. Dees of Statesville, an Episcopal rector who is president of the organization.

Dees said the statement was arrived at through correspondence among the directors.

Points Emphasized

The statement emphasizes two points:

1. "The places of business that are being violated are privately owned and the owners have both a legal right and a personal right to serve anyone they choose, and to refuse to serve anyone they choose.

2. "The culture of the South is based on a bi-racial society, any Supreme Court decisions to the contrary notwithstanding, and a destruction of the bi-racial society will obviously result in a mongrel society."

Store owners are assured in the statement that "the people of North Carolina, with the exception of disaffected elements of our Negro brethren, will support overwhelmingly the stores concerned to preserve the practice of providing segregated facilities to the customers."