

# Shelby Hit By Sitdown Movement

[Quiet returns to  
High Point. A14.]

SHELBY, Feb. 18 (AP) — Sitdown demonstrations by Negro students seeking to break racial barriers at variety store lunch counters moved to Shelby today. Police forcibly removed some demonstrators from the bus station.

A group of 60 to 75 Negroes, believed to be students at the city's Cleveland Negro High School, roamed the streets, visiting one drug store after another. They were refused service and left. They finally wound up at the bus station.

There, the youths, including boys and girls, occupied seats at the lunch counter and asked for service. The counter manager refused and asked an officer, Al Moss, to make the students leave.

Most of the Negroes filed out, but three were removed forcibly by Moss when they failed to leave.

## Closed Stores

After their ejection from the bus station, the group visited other drug stores in the downtown area but employes apparently saw them coming and closed their doors before the Negroes arrived.

Those in the group refused to identify themselves, or to say if they were students. It was known, however, that most of them were from the Cleveland School.

A spokesman for the group, who would not give his name, told newsmen, "We as a group of intelligent young people only desire our equal rights under the Constitution. We feel that we are American citizens because we were born here."

Another demonstrator told a reporter, "We feel we have a right to sit down and eat wherever we want to."

A small crowd of white people gathered outside the bus station. There were no incidents of violence, but the whites cheered when some of the Negroes were forcibly ejected.