

Trial Of 29 Negroes Set In New Bern

NEW BERN, March 18 (AP)—Twenty-nine Negroes charged in connection with lunch counter sitdowns here Thursday will be tried Monday.

Police Chief James E. Pearsall said the Negroes, most of them high school students, were charged with trespassing. Sixteen were arrested at the S. H. Kress Co. store and 13 at Clark's Drug Store.

A Negro minister who is chairman of the county chapter of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People furnished the bonds of \$25 each.

Two previous demonstrations this week by Negroes seeking integrated lunch counter service in the schools ended when store officials asked them to leave.

Chief Pearsall said when the Negroes took seats in Kress', the luncheonette manager turned out the lights as a closing signal. When the signal was ignored, a policeman asked the group to leave. The chief said they were all arrested when they refused to leave.

The chief said at the police station the Negroes refused to give their names to the desk sergeant, but asked to speak to a lawyer.

"They didn't know his (the lawyer's) name. All they had was a telephone number they were to call if they were arrested," Chief Pearsall said.

The Kress store in Charlotte was the scene Thursday of a peaceful sitdown demonstration by 12 Negro students at Johnson C. Smith University. The group sat at the Kress lunch counter for an hour and then left when they were not served.