

Negro Pastors Join Charlotte Sitdown Protest

CHARLOTTE, June 23 (AP) — Twenty-five Negro ministers plan to join students here today in sit-down protests against segregated lunch counter seating.

Charles Jones, a leader of the Charlotte sitdowns, announced that the ministers and students were asked to meet on a Charlotte street corner early this afternoon in order to start their sit-downs in seven stores.

The police department said it was assigning extra men to the area.

John R. Cunningham, former president of Davidson College and chairman of the Mayor's Friendly Relations Committee, said he had been told of the sit-down plans by Jones.

The Negro ministers are members of the Catawba Synod, Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., now meeting here.

Dr. Cunningham, director of the Presbyterian Foundation, said the sitdowns were resumed Wednesday after a two-month lapse because downtown merchants refused an invitation to appear before the Mayor's Committee to discuss the situation.

Dr. Cunningham said he felt sure that some of the merchants were willing to discuss the situation.