

NAACP To Boycott Local Barbershops

William Meek, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, called for an "all out" boycott of State College barber shops by students and townspeople to begin this morning.

At an NAACP meeting last night, it was disclosed that discriminatory policies by State College barbers in refusing to cut the hair of Negro students prompted the call for "wholehearted boycotting and picketing" of the barber shops.

In the past, reported NAACP members, the barbers refused to cut the hair of Negroes

The situation came to a climax yesterday when an NAACP committee, including five Negro students, tested four of the six State College barber shops to determine the true attitudes of barbers toward cutting Negroes' hair.

In all four barber shops, Smith, Hartman, Martin and Kreamer, and Cassidy, said Meek, the NAACP testers received a polite, but determined, refusal to cut the hair of the Negro members of the committee.

In each incident, stated Meek, the refusals were witnessed by both committeemen and townspeople, and in no case did any white patron leave the shop on account of the Negro students.

Attempts by the NAACP to hold a conference with the barbers involved in yesterday's episode, reported Meek, failed on grounds that the barbers were "too busy" to confer with the organization.

The NAACP plans to contact the remaining two barber shops to firmly establish their attitude toward Negroes on campus.

Discriminatory barber shops will be picketed until action is taken to eliminate this situation, commented NAACP members.

We hope that the student body will cooperate with the NAACP by making an effort to have their hair cut at home and not in State College, commented Meek.

"Our fight is not primarily against the barbers," he added. "It is, however, against the racial discrimination, which in the case of State College, is prevalent in the barber shops."