

Probe of Judge Davidson Urged At Rally Protesting 'Negro Abuse'

By PAT ZISKA

Participants in a rally last night protesting the treatment of Negroes locally and in Birmingham, Ala., were urged to write to the State Court on the Judiciary and the State Judicial Conference requesting an investigation of the actions of City Court Judge Sidney Z. Davidson.

The investigation would cover both Davidson's remarks in sentencing A. C. White and his "general demeanor in related cases," Eugene Newport said after the protest meeting.

Newport, president of the Monroe County Non-Partisan Political League, made the request shortly before participants left their meeting at A.M.E. Zion Church, 42 Favor St., to make a protest march to the County Courthouse. Marchers included four mem-

bers of the Rochester Police Bureau including two police women.

Some members of the three organizations which sponsored last night's rally were disturbed by Davidson's remarks in sentencing White, 46, to terms totaling 14 months in Monroe County Penitentiary on charges of third degree assault, resisting arrest and driving without a license.

White had accused the four patrolmen who arrested him of brutality. All were suspended for 10 days. Their reinstatement led to the organization of a special committee and the city administration's ultimate decision to set up a Police Advisory Board to handle all complaints of police brutality.

In sentencing him, Davidson called White "a confirmed liar and disgrace to

your race and community." "It is unfortunate," the judge continued, "that good citizens got involved trying to help a man like you."

During the orderly march from the church to the courthouse last night rally participants moved in pairs down Favor to Main Street West and up Broad Street to Fitzhugh St. back to Main West to the front of the courthouse where a prayer for justice and brotherhood was recited.

Inside the lobby members of the Black Muslim sect awaiting a jury decision on their trial on assault and riot charges watched the group at prayer.

Newport said the courthouse was chosen as the site for the prayer because it was the seat of so many injustices against Negroes, including the clearing of two patrolmen of assaulting Negro serv-

ice station attendant Rufus Fairwell by a county grand jury.

Policewomen Marcella Schneider and Patricia Thompson and Detectives Lloyd Stevens and Irvin Carter were among the marchers.

"We were ordered to be here," the policewoman said.

The two detectives said they were asked to participate by superiors but "could have turned it down." Both said they believed they would have participated anyway.

After the prayer the group marched back to the church where they disbanded.

Newport said his league and the other two sponsoring groups, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Congress on Racial Equality, also would send letters to the two judicial bodies.