

Dismissal Of Case Against Six Black 'N' Students Asked

An abbreviated session of the lengthy trial of six Northern Michigan University black students charged with creating a disturbance was held in the circuit courtroom in the county courthouse Friday afternoon, with a motion by defense attorney J. Kent Bourland being argued before District Judge George E. Hill.

Bourland asked for dismissal of the charges against all six defendants, contending that testimony introduced by Prosecutor Edward A. Quinnell failed to prove that any of his clients

had any part in the disturbance which took place in the dean of students office last Dec. 17-18.

Prosecution Case Finished

The motion was made by Bourland after court was convened at about 4 p.m., following conferences in the judge's chambers, and Bourland and Quinnell argued the merits of the case for the next one and one-half hours.

Quinnell had finished the prosecution's case at noon Friday. Bourland indicated that he planned to call between 5 and 15 witnesses for the defense, but latest word is that "only a few" persons will testify for the six defendants.

The trial had been scheduled to be resumed this morning, but when Judge Hill adjourned Friday's session he said it would be continued at 9 a.m. Monday in the district courtroom.

Ruling Expected Monday

He is expected to rule on Bourland's motion for dismissal at that time.

The trial began last Monday morning, with all of Monday and part of Tuesday being taken up in selection of a jury of six women and two men. If the case eventually goes to the jury, only six of them will deliberate the guilt or innocence of the defendants.

Transfer of the case to the much smaller district courtroom is made necessary because the April term of Marquette County Circuit Court will open in the circuit courtroom Monday.

Three Named To County Study Unit

County Board Chairman Theodore R. Mattson Sr., Ishpeming, today announced appointment of three district commissioners to a special study committee which will inquire into all phases of county operations and expenditures.

Making up the committee will be Richard Hamerschmidt, Marquette; Thomas Jernstad, Marquette Township, and Clayton Anderson, Champion, with Mattson attending each of its sessions as an ex-officio member.

"We expect to begin our study in May," Mattson said. "We have a lot of work ahead before we begin preparation of