

Grandma and Girl, 3, Are Among Sit-Ins

By FRED MOLLENKOPF

It was a sure thing that the youngest sit-in demonstrator at the Board of Education yesterday was Kathrine Weathers, 3.

It was less sure that the oldest was Mrs. Rose Burwasser. This attractive grandmother of seven made an interviewer guess her age—and she thanked him graciously when he said, "Maybe 60?"

Kathrine and her mother, Margaret, of 1960 Ansel Road N. E., are veterans of civil rights demonstrations.

THEY WALKED to the Stadium in the Freedom March here last summer.

Mrs. Weathers also took part in the 1961 and 1962 protests of relay classes for Negro children.

"This will demonstrate to the board and the Greater Cleveland community Negroes' love of freedom," she said of yesterday's sit-ins.

Mrs. Burwasser, the grandmother, lives at 3298 E. Overlook Road, Cleveland Heights. She is a widow.

"I'M VERY SYMPATHETIC with this cause," she said. "I belong to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and CORE (Congress of Racial Equality).

"I picketed here Tuesday, and I went to Washington. I believe in this all the way."

Did she plan to spend the night?

"I'll stay till the bitter end, the last end as my granddaughter would say."

Mrs. Burwasser has a son who is a major in the Army and a daughter who does psychiatric social work in Harlem and is on the faculty of Columbia University.

THE MARBLE FLOORS of the school board building are not really made for sitting. Folded coats and kneeling pads softened the grind for some. Others stretched out in the waning afternoon.

Many brought books such as "The Death and Life of Great American Cities," "Prejudice and Your Child," "A Documentary History of Negro People in the United States."

A magazine entitled "Integrated Education" was passed out during the afternoon.

Enough food was brought in for the overnight sitting before the building closed at 5:30 p.m.

ONE OF THE most impressive things about the sit-in

was the constant policing of the area to keep it free of litter.

The sit-in demonstrators totaled about 60 at their peak. Late last night about 40 were set to stay the night.

One demonstrator, William D. Moore, a lawyer, manned a two-way radio for contact with outside headquarters.

The Rev. Paul Younger, a leader of the United Freedom Movement, led the demonstrators in a prayer about 9 p.m.

THE PRAYER was for school board members—"that Jesus may open their eyes so that they will do right in their hearts as well as their minds"—and for school children—"that they may come to know one another not by color but as individuals."

Negro freedom songs were also sung.

The sit-in also provided a chance for office seekers to have nominating petitions signed. Edward H. Corrigan, candidate for Congress in the 22d District, circulated his petitions there. Earlier one was passed for Carl B. Stokes, for nomination to retain his state representative seat.