A Lucky supermarket clerk wheelied off a cart full of unbought merchandise and a CORE demonstrator (background) prepared to go back for another load.

CORE 'Shop-In' at S. F. Supermarket

Business at the Lucky supermarket in Lakeshore Plaza stumbled to a virtual dead stop last night as local members of the Congress of Racial Equality staged a bizarre demonstration there. CORE has accuse Lucky stores Inc. of violating an agreement to hire more Negroes — an accusation which Lucky denies.

As a result, the civil rights organization has been "picketing" the company's stores throughout the Bay Area and Northern California for the past week.

Last night's "picketing" took the form of what CORE chairman William Bradley labeled a "shop-in."

NO MONEY

Some 35 demonstrators arrived at the Lakeshore store shortly after 6:30 p.m. and stayed until it closed at 9 p.m. They shopped but they didn't pay.

The modus operandi was simplicity itself. CORE members circulated through the store scooping up armfuls — the store removed all but a few of its shopping carts — of merchandise.

At the single-checkout counter open for business, the items were dutifully rung up on the cash register and bagged by the clerk. CORE members then informed the clerk they hadn't the money to pay. The items were debagged — and the CORE member was off on another shopping binge.

COPS

A dozen police officers were in the store last night to observe the matter but reported no violence.

A large crowd of neighbors assembled and mildly jeered the demonstrators.

Despite the large crowd and the busily ringing cash register, the store, according to manager Arden Grauman, "didn't do any business to amount to anything after 7 p.m."

The dispute stems from what CORE says is Lucky's betrayal of a four-month-old agreement with the organization to hire "an equitable number of Negroes."

HIRING

CORE says Lucky stores have hired only 15 Negroes among 320 new employees since the agreement. Lucky insists that 28 per cent of its new clerks have been Negroes.

"But this represents only one job category," Bradley said last night. "The overall average is only about 6 per cent."

Bradley said the demonstrations would be resumed — at various unannounced times and places.

Highway Deaths

London

The January highway death figure of 70 for the greater London district was nearly double the figure of 37 for the same month last year.