

may provide clues to current political trends when they se- be watched closely by chief-

# Negro Must Apply Dignity To Gain Goals, King Says

The Negro himself must assume primary responsibility for achieving full, first class American citizenship, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., told more than 1,300 persons last night.

The Atlanta, Ga., national Negro leader, spoke at a jam-packed Howard High School auditorium. The address, his first in this city, was sponsored by the Wilmington Branch, NAACP.

Introduced by Louis L. Redding, Wilmington lawyer, Dr. King declared that racial integration "is not a lavish dish on a silver platter, to be handed out by the federal government, while the Negro furnishes only the appetite."

Negroes will have to continue to be concerned about their freedom, Dr. King said. If and when they lose that concern, he warned, "they will commit moral and political suicide."

The goals of social, economic and political justice are not to be sought by the Negro "with bitterness in our hearts", Dr. King declared. "There is another way—the way of endurance and of love", he said. "It is a way as old as the insights of Jesus."

First class citizenship must continue to be sought, Dr. King emphasized, "but never use second class methods to get it!" He said the way of violence or hatred for the perpetrators of discrimination and injustice "would make us victims, not victors."

"Black supremacy is just as dangerous as white supremacy," Dr. King declared. He added that "God is not interested" in either, "but in freedom and dignity for all men, His creatures." "Protest, yes," said Dr. King, "but with dignity and discipline to achieve our goals."

Both the Democratic and Republican parties were scored by Dr. King for "betraying the cause of justice" in the area of civil rights in the past. "It is interesting now," he said, "that both major political parties have come out with the strongest civil rights platform planks ever."

Negroes, he said, regard them as "promissory notes, which must be implemented."

Mr. Redding praised Dr. King's leadership at a point when Negroes in this country has become discouraged, despondent and near to despair.

The Rev. Dr. J. L. Morgan, president of the Wilmington Branch, NAACP, presided. The Rev. Maurice Moyer, pastor of the Community Presbyterian Church, Dunleith Estates, gave the invocation. The Delaware City Male Chorus sang several numbers.

Mrs. Maggie Toomer, 82, of 1342 South Claymont Street, sat on the platform and was given recognition as "the oldest" membership campaign worker for the local NAACP branch.

A white orchid was pinned on Mrs. Martin Luther King's dress by Mrs. Morgan.