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Integration's Past, Future Subject of Talk by King

By BILL HENRY

How far integration has come and where it is going will be the topic of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. when he speaks here Friday.

The 1964 Nobel Peace Prize winner will speak on "The Future of Integration" at 10 a.m. in the Field House.

William Boyer, convocations committee head, said King's comments on the civil rights scene are still respected despite the rise of the black power movement and headlines given to the young militants, H. Rap Brown and Stokley Carmichael.

With the emphasis switching to the racial problems of the large cities, other rights and the riots in the Negro ghettos King's once dominant role of leadership has been challenged by fellow rights leaders.

One unnamed militant went so far as to tell a Newsweek reporter last fall that King ought to pack up his bag and go back South. Once there, he added, he could become another "pied piper" in a massive voter registration campaign.

The fact, leaders say, is that King and his methods of non-violent demonstration which he has employed successfully in the South have failed to bear equal fruit in the North.

The most notable examples of this failure was his push for open-housing in Chicago during the summer of 1965. His Southern-style mass-marching campaign—which did help win a city-wide agreement on open housing set off a wave of white anger without placing a single Negro family in a white neighborhood.

King admits the issues at stake in the Northern cities are not easily resolved overnight. Since his Chicago experiment King talks of community organization in the cities as a five-year task.

"There's a realistic feeling that it's harder now," King said recently

"And there's a readjustment of the time schedule: we know we're not going to accomplish all these things overnight or in a matter of a few months," he added.

King's reputation as an articulate voice on the Negro's problems continues, but his position as the "unchallenged voice of the Negro people," is open to challenge, Boyer said.

Roy Wilkins, head of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), has been one vocal critic of King's mass-marching in the North.

Wilkins has pointed out that-King's most notable victories have been in the South where the Negro is in the majority.

Wilkins said, "King's utilization of the non-violent mass march and boycott is patterned after Ghandi's success in India. This worked in the South where 70 per cent of the people who rode the Birmingham buses were Negro but a similar boycott in New York City would hardly raise an eyebrow."

Boyer described King's anti-Vietnam viewpoint as a practical realization. "King sees Vietnam as severely constraining the national attention, money, means and manpower—resources that could be directed into the war against poverty," he said.

King was only the third Negro to receive the Peace Prize since Alfred Nobel instituted it in 1895. He is the twelfth American to win the Laureate Peace Prize.