## 5,000 Listeners Share In Dr. King's 'American Dream' The Madison Eagle, February 13, 1964

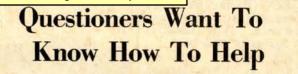
attended cultural event in this area's history to in place on the Drew Univercampus last Wedsity nesday evening, when 5,000 local and nearby residents overflowed three buildings and onto the campus for the privilege of hearing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the civil rights Messiah.

Perhaps 500 others who attempted to attend the convocation in Baldwin Gym were turned away in cars that were not able to find parking space. Some people arrived as much as two-and-a-half hours before the scheduled 8 p.m. event to assure entrance.

Also on hand were a few of the pickets which follow Dr. King wherever he goes. Members of the Alert Americans Assn. placed literature under windshield wipers on parked vehicles branding the speaker as a Communist. Judging from the orderly, polite, local acceptance of Dr. King, few took the pickets seriously. Most of the listeners could be characterized as alert Americans.

Only that portion of the audience which was crammed into the gym saw the speaker. Four other areas were wired to relay the speech, including two lower rooms in the gym-nasium building, the Great Hall and the Student Center as well as an outthe Student

door area. Dr. King, a quiet but forceful speaker with a clear, convincing delivery, was equal to the tremen-dous local honor accorded him. He held his audi-ence for the better part of an hour and then answer-



MADISON - When Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. completed his question and answer period following his last Wednesday speech night, there were still more than 100 cards posing eager questions. Few of the questions were face-tious. Most of them were deeply proving and many of them had names and addresses attached.

One card was a testi-monial from nine local boys and their sponsor. It read: "The Condors Senior Hi-Y

of Madison thinks you're great, Dr. King!" It was signed by Rick Barfoot, Jay Cunningham, Jon Alexander, Dave Rough, Bob Santillo, Lloyd Cicota, Santillo, Lloyd Cicora, John Wenzel, Mac Mc-

Cormick, Greg Johnson and their sponsor John T. Cunningham. The boys were able to shake the speaker's hand after the talk.

An analysis of the questions reveals that there were many doubts in the audience about the ef-fectiveness of Dr. King's non-violent approach to civil rights, but few of them seemed to be direct-ed with a "closed-mind" attitude.

Most persistent ques-tion concerned the recent New York school boycott. Most evident trend was a desire by individuals desire by individuals to discover what they can do to make the civil rights movement more effective.

## **Eagle Covers Event In Depth**

- Due to MADISON the unprecedented area interest in the "Amerinterest in the "Amer-ican Dream" speech February 5 by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Madison Eagle writers on various pages of today's issue have treated dif-ferent aspects of the impact on local communities.

ed questions sent to the podium on cards. Before podium on cards. starting his speech, he faced the part of his audi-ence standing outside and

was given a wild ovation. Security measures were coordinated by the Mad-ison Police Department, which placed a large complement of men on the cam-

Coverage includes a special article by Mrs. Bonnie Barrow, together with a pertinent comment. by the editor titled "Alby the editor three ligator Bait" on the editorial page. Mrs. Eleanor Weis also deby the editor titled ligator Bait" on votes a portion of her column on the Florham Park page to the picketing aspect of the event.

pus. There were no in-

cidents to mar the spec-tacular event. Listeners last Wed-nesday night have gen-erally commended Drew University for its policy of making a significant contribution to the cultural needs of the growing area.



Dr. King is welcomed by Dr. George Kelsey, who is a former teacher of the Negro lead-er; Drew President Robert F. Oxnam, who introduced the speaker; and Mrs. Kelsey, ac-

tive in local affairs. Dr. King told his audience: "We want to get rid of the notion that there are inferior and superior nations."



This is part of the crowd of 5,000 which started to assemble two-and-a-half hours before starting time. The audience heard Dr. King say: "I am proud to be maladjusted to segregation and discrimination. There is a great need for creative maladjustment."