

# Dr. King Replies to Daley Charges



The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King appears intense as he discusses fair housing with Gilbert Balin, of G. Balin Inc., real estate agents.

(TRIBUNE Staff Photo)

Dr. Martin Luther King said yesterday his return to Chicago was not politically motivated, as charged by Mayor Daley. He rejected the mayor's accusations that King's movement is trying to stir up a white backlash before the election next Tuesday.

At a west side real estate office, the Nobel prize winner stated: "Mayor Daley's charges are very unfortunate and unfounded. I am not thinking about the white backlash. This hate group has always existed."

## Movement to Continue

Regardless of the election, Dr. King said his movement must go forward. He said direct action would be held if necessary but could not say when and where.

"My presence here today, to negotiate an agreement between the East Garfield Union to End Slums and Balin real estate company [21 N. Pulaski rd.] has no relationship to the election," Dr. King said.

At a press conference Tuesday, Mayor Daley said that the Rev. James Bevel, one of King's top aids in Chicago, urged followers to vote Republican on Nov. 8. The mayor quoted Bevel as saying, "We'll march in Gage Park until every white man votes Republican."

King replied: "The Rev. Bevel is a citizen of Chicago.

He has a right to express his political views but he is not speaking for the Chicago freedom movement. Our movement is nonpolitical—we do not endorse candidates."

King said that picketing of the Balin real estate office is not new.

## Fight a Year Old

"We have been working on them for several months," King said. "The fight to win collective bargaining contracts between the Union to End Slums and real estate brokers has been going on for nearly a year. How can you say it's politically motivated?"

King also disputed Daley's statement that he has "returned" to Chicago.

"I have been in Chicago every week-end, except one," King told reporters. "It is not as if I am returning to Chicago!"

King has been in Atlanta, his home, where his father has been ill.

King joined 40 pickets, including 17 white persons, in a prayer vigil outside the real estate office. He conferred with Gilbert Balin, owner of the firm, for 30 minutes.

Balin and two Negro employees complained to King that they had been harassed by pickets since August. Balin insisted he was doing all he could to improve the buildings at 3537 Carroll av. and 3500 Fulton st.