



Elijah Muhammad's followers, with those blue sailor caps on the males and the flowing white robes on the sisters, were a sensational sight for some whites in the lobbies of the swank Loop hotels. They came for a three-hour sermon and their serious attention to every word of the leader never wavered.

Soon you may see bus loads of brothers and sisters from down home visiting the Baha'i Temple on the North Shore, one of Chicago's best known tourist attractions. A South Carolina news item Sunday stated: "9,000 converts — most of them rural blacks — joined the Baha'i World Faith during a recent month-long, 13-county 'teaching conference' headquartered in Dillon, S. C." It seems that the mass conversion program in Dixie is being led by a sister, Mrs. Alberta Williford.

Congressman George Collins is asking for your help to make a success out of the Annual Scholarship Cotillion which is sponsored by the Lawndale Youth Commission. The affair is slated for the Pick Congress on March 28. Some \$2,000 in scholarships are given away each year.

The black community was represented by several families at the memorial service in Winnetka for Mrs. Laird Bell who died last week. Mrs. Bell not only donated money to help the black condition but she worked at it and pushed for improvements. She was keenly interested in the grass roots teaching of Jane Pryor's Opportunity Centers.

Nathan A. Scott of the University of Chicago and Pulitzer prize poet Gwendolyn Brooks are among the local celebrities included in the new anthology "Calvacade" which has as its subtitle "Negro American Writing from 1760 To The Present." The handsome new book is edited by Arthur P. Davis of Howard University and Saunders Redding of Cornell.

General "Chappie" James was eating lunch at Batts on 22d street with Alex Poinsett when one of the diners greeted the black air ace as Colonel. A bystander corrected the cat and everybody laughed. Another cat cracked: "What a nigger has to go through to get to be a general ain't funny."

Squire Lance is working so hard in moving his family from New York to Chicago, his home ground, that he needs a vacation. He is going to take one, a whole month in Kingston, Jamaica.

Spring is really on the way. Ed Gillespie sends a note from the County's Forest Preserve District about your picnic plans. He says "If your plans for the summer include a group picnic, of 25 people or more, you can secure a picnic permit now by appearing in person at the Forest Preserve Picnic Office, Room 929, County Building, 118 N. Clark, Chicago from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily."

Chicago friends of Dr. Ralph Bunche were pleased to learn that he is now out of the hospital. The United Nations biggie has been suffering from a respiratory ailment and serious eye trouble. The 63-year-old former Howard University professor has lost none of the esteem he won in the early peace talks between the Arabs and Israel. In the light of current Middle East tension, his services are badly needed now.

The Headline Club of Chicago paid tribute to the veteran Northwestern journalism professor Curtis MacDougall last week at a dinner crowded with notables in the news field. Former students paid glowing tribute to the old master but Les Brownlee, newsman on Channel 7, stole the show. Closing his speech, he leaned over, patted the grey-haired professor on the back and said "You've got soul, baby."