National Roundup

WASHINGTON — The summer months usually make up the season for conventions and reunions and June through September, 1981, are no exception... The NAACP met in Denver, Colo., 6,000 strong amidst growing concern over a reported financial crisis in the organization as some chaptere began using tin can collections to save the association which has helped save thousands of black folks in past generations... "Talking about a budget crunch, we are really caught in one," declared one lifelong supporter... There's been a shakeup in the organization's New York headquarters and Washington bureau as Leadership Conference on Civil Rights stalwart Yvonne Price moved to the Manhattan office after exec Akhea Simmons took control in D.C... and veteran scribe Chester Higgins Sr., left the Department of Defense public affairs office to go to the aid of his old boss, NAACP President Ben Hooks as another flack in the Big Town... Ace newsman Paul Brock who reorganized the major civil rights organization's effective communications department will now be working as a "consultant"

The National Urban League returns to the Capital for its quadriennial gabfest among the shakers and movers (July 18 - 22)... as top NUL exec Bill Haskins and Atlanta's Art Cummings were seen in town plotting strategy... Atlanta's former administrator Cummings refused to confirm reports that the children's murder tragedies in the Georgia capital may come to an explosive climax as some major names in the city are involved in the investigation... However, he did not rule out speculation that some of the murders could be part of an effort to embarrass the black leadership in the city once considered "too busy to hate." Cummings is aiding Ambassador Andrew Young's campaign for mayor of the troubled city.

The Progressive Baptist Convention, Inc., moved into St. Louis, Mo., behind the National Baptist Convention which met there last year . . . The increasingly influential Prometheans veterans organization returns to the East Coast in San Diego in August, with Compton's (Calif.) Dr. James

The National Association of Black Women Attorneys kicked off the '81 convention season with their May meeting on Capitol Hill under the leadership of Attys. Linda Spooner and Jacqueline Jackson, co-chairmen. Wilhelmina Jackson Rolark, Esquire, is president of the group.

In addition to the numerous college and family reunions this summer, the university of Iowa Black Alumni scheduled sessions in the New Jersey Meadowlands (July 24-26). Contact McKinley (Deacon) Davis at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois, 60115. St. Louis 'Charles Sumner High School 1941 class' 40th reunion is set for August 26-28... Dr. Bernard Lafayette of Lindenwood (Mo.) Four College is proceeding with plans for the Freedom Rider reunion in Atlanta this month... Pilgrimmages of renewal are scheduled from New Orleans, Jackson, Miss., and Washington... Doctor Lafayette says the project will be held annually to maintain the civil rights spirit in the 'Liberated' areas of the country.

Speaking of liberation, former Freedom Rider Kwame (Stokely Carmichael) Toure's All African Peoples Revolution Party also helped start the season, appropriately enough, with its annual African Liberation Day march and observance at Malcolm X Park high on a hill looking down on the White House last Memorial Day . . . A somewhat mellower S.C. warned that "those who advocate rebellion and disturbances this summer are irresponsible and corrupt . . . we cannot have revolution until we are organized . . ." Many people who urge street demonstration and action now, Stokely said, "are the petit bourgeois who want to get the jobs we create, so they can turn against us . . ." he told the crowd of young and old, poor and middle class who still flock to the observances . . . There are black mayors in Washington, Atlanta, New Orleans and Detroit, but the new political power hasn't helped us much, the veteran warrior, who now makes his home in Guinea, West African, cautioned.

An finally, speaking of convetions and reunions, many black (or near black) organizations are increasingly looking to the African continent for

By Larry Still and Art Carter

Whitemore as host chairman . . . St. Louis dentist James DeClue heads the Howard University vets who are developing a nationwide Adopt-A-School plan to improve "inner city" schools with the help of the private business sector under the leadership of Dr. Dorothy Jenkins, former American University vice-president . . . Incidently, Doctor DeClue is president of the St. Louis County NAACP which helped develop the new "Missouri Compromise" voluntary desegregation plan which the Reagan administration appears adopted as a nationwide model . . . Former D.C. School Superintendent Vincent Reed (of St. Louis) who helped develop the Adopt-A-School project with the Prometheans in Washington is now Assistant Secretary of Education . . . Who says OUR "old boy" network can't work . . . If you would like the Prometheans in Washington is now Assistant Secretary of Education . . . Who says OUR "old boy" network can't work ... If you would like additional information on this project, contact Sam Ethridge, Prometheans Adopt-A-School, Suite 503, National Education Association Building, 1201 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C., 20036.

New Congressional Black Caucus Chairman, Rep. Walter E. Fauntroy (D-D.C.) is extending his own network into a more effective coalition as the CBC prepares for its 11th Legislative Weekend, September 25-27, at the Washington Hilton Hotel, as usual . . . But, for the first time in history of the affair, the comprehensive program is already organized and some 3,000 delegates will be required to participate in effective action workshops in addition to the numerous social events and parties where political action is also effectively conducted . . . Information on the CBC weekend may be obtained by contacting Carl Green or Gary Rivers, Congressional Black Caucus, Room H2-344, House Office Building, Annex Number Two, Washington, D.C., 20515, 202-225-1691 . . . Barbara Williams, the major dynamo who guided CBC development as executive director for the past seven years, is leaving the staff "to pursue other interest" following her recent marriage to evangelist Tom Skinner.

Although the Republican budget cut of Federal social programs and the termination of voting rights legislation are the top items on the agenda of the 18 Congressional members of the Caucus, a new National Alliance of Black School Educators is planning a "Summit Meeting" on support of public schools and higher education for blacks during the CBC weekend.

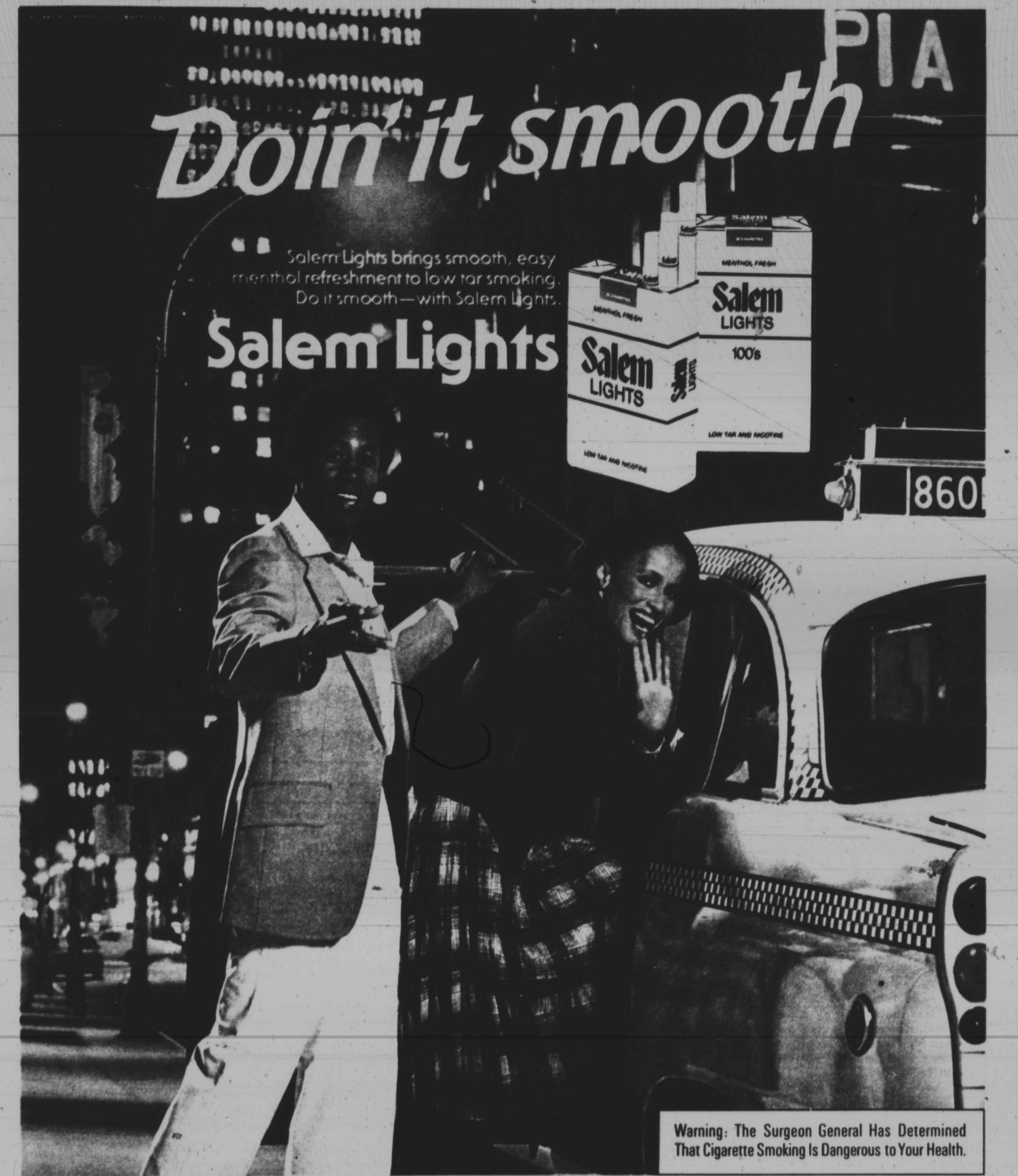
their annual meetings.

The newly effective African Travel Association, headed by New Yorker Frances B. Blackwell, president, and Chairman Bette Saunders took some 400 members to Zambia in South Central Africa as guests of the government for its sixth international convention in a world wide effort to promote tourism on the continent and encourage some Afro Americans 'to return to their roots'... The ATA met in Gabon in central Africa last year and plans to meet in Togo, French speaking Africa in 1982, as their effort to promote business, cultural and tecreational interest in the newly independent nations attract more attention.

Zambia President Kenneth Kaunda welcomed the delegates from USA, Canada, Europe, Asia and Africa in royal style at the elegant, new Mulungushi Hall convention center (built for Queen Elizabeth's visit to the British Commonwealth of National conference held in 1979) and housed them in the modern, fashionable Padmozi, Inter - Continental, Ridgely Hotels and the Andrews Motel in the sprawling, bustling, Texas - like capital city of Lusaka. But, he ventured that western and eastern visitors did not come to Africa to "see our skyscrapers," view the changing skyline or moarvel at the modern conveniences in Africa.

"We do not always seem to realize that the tourist comes out here to get away from it all — from the plastic chicken, the black tie dinners and maybe even from the cold beer," the President explained admidst chuckles from the delegates. For the average tourist, "the romance lies in the fact that he can relax in a different atmosphere and that he can relive those precious moments of carefree abandon under an African moon when he (is) so close to nature, — Kaunda continued.

Taking a cue from a background article on Zambia in a recent issue of DAWN magazine, the ATA delegates found the country one of the most relaxing, but exciting locations on the continent because of the friendly residents, the vast array of wild life parks, the industrious cities and the scenic beauty. Conditions in landlocked Zambia, home of the famed Victoria Falls, have been "stablized" since their neighbor fought and won its independence last year. The country is also bordered by Zaire (former Belgian Congo), Tanzania, Mozambique and South Africa with whom it still has to trade despite vigorous opposition to the white ruled minority's apartheid policies.



LIGHTS: 11 mg. "tar", 0.8 mg. nicotine, LIGHTS 100's: 11 mg. "tar", 0.9 mg. nicotine, av. per cigarette, FTC Report DEC. '79.