

Half-Sister Succeeds Malcolm X

NEW YORK, N.Y.--A 48-year-old half-sister of assassinated black nationalist leader Malcolm X has announced she is taking over chairmanship of the Organization of Afro-American Unity founded by her half-brother.

Mrs. Ella Collins, who has been serving as executive director of the OAAU's Boston chapter since last June, said she will make her headquarters in the Massachusetts city but that James Shabazz, the slain Black Muslim defector's secretary at the time he was killed at a public rally on Feb. 21, "will work with me" in New York.

In making public a 600-word statement at a news conference here, Mrs. Collins said she hoped "to bring about brotherhood and understanding between the races, if we can," but warned that if oppression of Negroes continued, "there definitely will be an outbreak of violence, not among those who are guided, but among those who are on the loose." The statement suggested that the unity of peoples of African descent "was such a threat to the racist power structure of the Western 'democracies' that it had great significance" in Malcolm's assassination.

Mrs. Collins said she had "no desire to fight the Black Muslims" or their Chicago-based leader, Elijah Muhammad. (The latter has denied that his organization was responsible for Malcolm's death.) She said that the day before he died, Malcolm told her that the fire-bombing of his home a week earlier had been due to some-



MRS. ELLA COLLINS

thing "much bigger than the Black Muslims," and designated her as his successor in the event further attempts on his life were successful.

Revealing that she still embraces the Muslim religion, Mrs. Collins said she had dropped out of Elijah Muhammad's movement in 1959, five years before Malcolm, and is not affiliated with any mosque.

A native of Butler, Ga., Mrs. Collins was the second oldest of four sisters and six brothers. Malcolm, seventh of the children, lived at her home in Roxbury, Mass., when he was 15 and 16 years old.

For the past three years, Mrs. Collins has been running the non-sectarian Sarah A. Little School in Boston. Named after a late aunt, the preparatory arts school has 147 children and 30 adults studying foreign languages, speech and similar subjects according to Mrs. Collins.

Mrs. Toms on Slate

A SURVEY OF SERVICES provided by the law enforcement and fire protection agencies in the Las Vegas Valley has been recommended as a project for next year by the board of the Provisional League of Women Voters of Las Vegas Valley.

Members of the local organization will vote on adoption of this program at a meeting scheduled for 8 p.m. on April 1 in the Ruby Thomas School Resource Center. Alternate projects, but not recommended, include studies of parks and recreation in Clark County, and planning, zoning and administration of the county school district.

Clark County government in general has been the subject of league study since May 1964, when the provisional unit was organized.

Also on the agenda at the April 1 meeting will be election of officers and adoption of a

budget. Nominees include the Mmes. Samuel Ford, president; Verdun Trione, 1st vice president; Thomas Harves, 2nd vice president; John Wright, treasurer; Paul Harris, secretary, and Nelson Williams, Irving Goldstein, Herbert Russo, William Southard, Jacob Orleans and Till Toms, directors. The Mmes. Robbins Cahill, Rennie Ashleman and Geoffrey Stormson are nominees for a nominating committee.

All interested women are invited to join the local unit, part of a national non-partisan organization designed to encourage citizens to study and participate in government. The League does not endorse candidates for political office, but makes recommendations on legislation after careful study.

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