

*Ms. Stevens*

# BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

Published by

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE BRITISH ISLES  
BM/BAHAI, LONDON, W.C.1

No. 91

Bahá'í Year 108

AUGUST—SEPTEMBER 1951

## REORIENTATION—TWO INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

There are now two funds established at the World Centre of the Cause in Haifa to which our beloved Guardian has appealed to us to contribute, the Báb's Shrine Fund and the International Bahá'í Fund.

To the sacred and urgent project of completing the beautiful Shrine of our Martyr-Prophet, to the institution of the International Bahá'í Council, with its three-fold function, to the initiation of the Africa campaign, now correlating the work of five National Assemblies and so constituting the first major international teaching and pioneering enterprise, there has been added the International Bahá'í Fund.

We are now privileged to take a share in the increasingly effective and far-reaching activities directed from the World Centre itself. Our sense of active participation, like our vision as Bahá'ís, can now be in very truth 'world-embracing' rather than confined to any lesser horizon.

### AN OBLIGATION

Indeed, the Guardian has stated that our collective contributions from local and national funds are a 'spiritual obligation' and our individual contributions are 'imperative' and beyond the jurisdiction of local or national institutions.

The National Assembly has voted to send £300 to the International Fund during the year in monthly instalments of £25 each.

### HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

We approached the Bank of England with a careful and full enquiry and received reply to the effect that the Bank will entertain applications from the National Assembly for transmission of sums to Haifa, but not from individuals.

We have therefore opened up two ways for contributions by Local Assemblies and individual believers either (1) direct to Arthur Norton, the present Báb's Shrine Fund Treasurer, with clear instructions as to the Fund for which the money is intended or (2) to the National Treasurer who will consolidate earmarked amounts at regular intervals and pass them to Arthur Norton, without detail of source. Thus Arthur Norton will in either case act on our behalf in transmitting monies through the Bank of England.

<sup>1</sup> Imperative — 'expressing command; commanding peremptory; urgent: obligatory.' (Oxford Dictionary.)

### A PRIVILEGE

How great our privilege is we may assess if we ponder the words of the Guardian concerning the Fund: 'Upon the response of the privileged builders of the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh depends the nature and rapidity of the evolution of the World Administrative Centre designed to culminate in the creation of the last unit crowning the structure of the embryonic World Order of Bahá'u'lláh.'

### ADDRESSES

Arthur Norton, 41 Cranbourne Road, Chellow Dene, Bradford.

Richard Backwell (National Treasurer), 23 Cardigan Road, Leeds 6.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

## FROM THE GUARDIAN

In reply to various questions from the National Assembly, the Guardian cabled on July 4th:

'Work newly assigned Egypt, India, Persia supplementary; any assistance extended them your Assembly deeply appreciated. Two Funds established World Centre. Settlement Nakhjawani left discretion your Assembly.'

And on July 15th; following a report from the National Assembly that an expert had commented that the difference between the languages Twi and Fante was very slight and had recommended translating into Ibo or Dagbane instead, the Guardian cabled:

'Approve Ibo or Dagbane instead of Fante.'

At its July meeting the National Assembly heard the sad news of the sudden death of Terence Preston, the husband of the Bahá'í resident in Kenya. The following cable was sent to the Guardian on July 16th:

'Hassan Isobel Sabri sailed Dar-es-Salaam July 6th. Sudden death Terence Preston no news Marguerite's plans. Should we reinforce Kenya.'

The Guardian replied on July 20th:

'Assure Sabris loving fervent prayers accompanying them. Grieve passing Preston. Assure wife loving prayers. Approve reinforce Kenya.'



# THE BAHÁ'Í INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

(Part of the article below is reprinted from the Australian *Bahá'í Bulletin*.)

The Bahá'í International Community was created to associate with the United Nations Organisation. It has no other function. It consists of the National Spiritual Assemblies of the Bahá'ís of the United States, Canada, British Isles, Germany and Austria, Iran, Iraq, Egypt and the Sudan, India, Pakistan and Burma, Australia and New Zealand, and is represented by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United States.

The Bahá'í International Community has been accredited at the Department of Public Information of United Nations. This means that United Nations feels that the Bahá'ís have ideals in common with the aims of the United Nations Organisation and that they can assist in establishing a world climate for the acceptance of U.N. principles.

Because of this recognition the Bahá'í International Community has accredited national and international observers, but does not have consultative status. At the present time these observers are Mrs. Mildred R. Mottahedeh, accredited observer for the Bahá'í International Community; Dr. Ugo R. Giachery, European observer for the Bahá'í International Community; and William de Forge, national observer for the N.S.A. of the Bahá'ís of the United States.

The Bahá'í International Community does not have delegates to United Nations except in the capacity of delegates at special U.N. conferences called by the Department of Public Information, such as conferences of international non-governmental organisations. Bahá'í delegates have met at such conferences at Geneva, Switzerland; Santiago, Chile; Lake Success, New York; Lawrence, Kansas; and Istanbul, Turkey.

The Bahá'í delegates to the Istanbul Conference in their report, circulated by the American Bahá'í United Nations Committee, make the following recommendations:

1. That the Bahá'ís participate in some of the U.N. activities in their respective countries.
2. That they maintain their contact with the U.N. Information Centres.
3. That they borrow U.N. films to show at Bahá'í or Public Teaching meetings. (Could be combined with Bahá'í talk.)
4. That they invite U.N. personnel to address their public meetings where advisable.
5. That they make use of the pictures and posters which the U.N. Information Centres have available for this purpose.
6. That they make use of the above material at the Bahá'í Summer Schools and Youth activities.
7. That the N.S.A. of each of these countries report all such activities to the Bahá'í U.N. Committee in New York. Such activities can be reported by delegates at future U.N. Conferences in their regions, as Bahá'í work done in support of the U.N. These reports will be forwarded to the U.N. by the Bahá'í U.N.

Committee, and will in all probability be printed for world distribution to all N.G.O.s in the Bulletin covering the activities of these organisations.'

There is an Information Office of the United Nations Organisation in London, all contact with which is at present handled by the National Assembly. There is in almost every town a branch of the United Nations Association, a voluntary organisation to which the National Assembly is affiliated, whose aim is primarily to diffuse information about and secure support for the United Nations Organisation. Some local communities have already found it valuable to take an interest in this Association. The address of the local branch may in most towns be obtained from the local Public Library; failing that it will be supplied by the United Nations Association, 25 Charles Street, London, W.1.

An admirable opportunity for initiating activities of the type referred to above is United Nations Day, October 24th, particulars of which have already been circulated to Local Assemblies.

## NEW EDITOR

Beginning with the October issue, *Bahá'í Journal* will be edited by Joe Jameson, 21 Beech Grove, Wallsend, Northumberland. Articles and announcements for publication in the *Journal* should in future be sent to him.

## NATIONAL COMMITTEE ARTICLES

Any National Committee may submit to the Editor an article of up to 500 words for publication in *Bahá'í Journal*. The Editor will publish it in the next issue of the *Journal* if he can, but has the right to postpone its insertion if lack of space makes this necessary. Naturally he will take into account the urgency of the subject matter.

## COST OF BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

The Convention delegates recommend that the price of each copy of *Bahá'í Journal* be published and that those who would like to contribute be invited to do so. The National Assembly decided that the same end could be achieved more simply by announcing the annual cost of the *Journal* per person, which, during the current year is expected to be about 10/-. The National Assembly will gladly accept yearly contributions of this amount from those members of the Community who would like to pay for the *Journals* they receive. *Bahá'í Journal* will, of course, continue to be sent to all members of the Community, whether they send a contribution or not.

## This Issue

It has not been possible to issue separate numbers of *Bahá'í Journal* for August and September, since to do so would have meant preparing an issue of the *Journal* while the Editor was at Summer School.

## 'THE NECESSARY FOUNDATION'

The chief accent of consolidation during the Two Year Plan will be upon the extent to which the Local Assemblies rise to their responsibility and develop their inherent capacity conferred upon them by Bahá'u'lláh Himself.

The Consolidation Committee has therefore been given fresh terms of reference of which the first is by far the most important: 'to do all possible to enhance the recognition of the spiritual station of Local Assemblies as "Trustees of the Merciful" and to foster in the Local Assemblies a sense of spiritual responsibility for the welfare and progress of the Cause and towards the members of their communities.'

This is the vital work and we have certain plans which we wish to share in this connection:

1. We are inviting the co-operation of all Local Assemblies, upon whom the responsibility for action rests squarely, to make fullest use they can of our services.

2. We are enlisting the support of and trying to ensure closest relationship with all other national committees and Bahá'í agencies and institutions.

3. We have, at the request of the National Assembly, propounded certain goals of achievement which Local Assemblies may care to use in setting themselves targets to aim at.

Regarding our other terms of reference we have planned several possible lines of activity, and we would like to hear from anyone who has fruitful suggestions which could help us in our common aim. Our plans include the offer of the film of the Shrines to be shown at each locality at some time during the two years. To help with this a special accompanying commentary is being asked for from the U.S.A. We are also offering, as a service from our Committee, a visit from a Committee member or other suitable believer to review Assembly procedure in all its aspects and provide the opportunity for any member to raise problems and questions to be tackled along Bahá'í lines. Then too we would encourage and support adjacent communities to get together where possible and hold week-end discussion groups or conferences on the subject of the evolving World Order of Bahá'u'lláh. We shall continue our service of articles and broadsheets from time to time in the *Journal* and issue the *Assembly Development Review*; we are also providing a special column in the *Journal* devoted entirely to the aspect of deepening in the Cause.

The co-ordination of teaching activity is the responsibility of the Teaching Committees; we are only concerned in this when we have a visitor from overseas or someone in our community who wants to offer a teaching tour which would cover more than one of the areas of the Teaching Committees.

It is, of course, our hope that the teaching activity will of itself fill out the gaps that must occur as pioneers arise to serve in Africa and ensure that healthy communities are growing as they should, but we realise that this result may not in every case be effected, and pioneers may still be needed to strengthen communities and ensure none lapses at the end of the

year — a lapse that would entail no delegate representative at the Convention at the end of the Two Year Plan. Since there may be some likelihood of such a lapse in one or two places, we have asked advice of the Teaching Committees concerned so that appeals may be launched for pioneers at an early date and perhaps the great expense of last-minute moves be avoided.

It remains for each of us to remember our individual responsibility to study the Word, to live the Bahá'í way, to tell others the great Message — the extent to which we do this is the extent to which we receive assistance and develop to the full stature of which we are capable. We must each develop a sense of active participation in the work of the Cause and through the personal teaching activity open to all of us endeavour to be the keys to unlock the hearts for Bahá'u'lláh's admittance. To be the cause of new spiritual life for one soul is to be the cause of rejoicing and of new life for all.

The Master over and over again stressed the need for us in Britain to act. Perhaps He knew that we are peculiarly prone to that strange lethargy that inhibits action!

The year of respite is over; we have a plan before us; let us set our targets and get to work. 'Be not idle but active and fear not,' said Bahá'u'lláh Himself.

CONSOLIDATED COMMITTEE

### FOR MEDITATION

In brief, one of the specific features of this cycle of His Holiness Bahá'u'lláh which has not been manifest during the former cycles is that His Holiness Bahá'u'lláh left no occasion for difference. For in His blessed Day He made a Covenant and Testament with the Traces of the Supreme Pen and explained the One to whom all should turn; and He explicitly pointed to the Interpreter of the Book, and thus closed all doors to interpretations. We must all offer thanks to God for He gave us rest in this blessed cycle, and left no occasion for any one to hesitate. All must therefore obey and be submissive and wholly turn themselves to the One appointed by Him.

### Marriages

Ursula Newman and Mehdi Samandari, London, July 28th. Shomais Alai and Abbas Afnan, Summer School, August 29th.

### Erratum

We deeply regret the omission of the following from the Bye-election results published in the last issue of *Bahá'í Journal*:

Rustom Sabit, 4 votes.



## CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

### THE FUND

1. It is believed that many people feel embarrassed at giving small sums to the National Fund, and it is therefore recommended that local treasurers be empowered to accept money on behalf of the National Fund. (Accepted with the following points added: The N.S.A. recommends that each L.S.A. work out a method by which contributions to the National Fund can be made, (1) to the local treasurer, in which case a local receipt would be given in the usual way; (2) a box to be put out for donations specially for the National Fund; (3) donations may, if desired, be sent direct to the National Treasurer.)

2. That the friends be encouraged to donate a certain percentage of their income regularly to the work of the Cause. (Approved, and the attention of the friends is being drawn to this suggestion.)

3. That the National Assembly investigate the possibility of floating loans among the believers to pay the bank overdraft. (A special committee has been appointed to study the overdraft. Then recommendations will be reported later.)

4. That the National Assembly start a vigorous Fund campaign for the purpose of paying the overdraft. (See above.)

5. That Bahá'ís ensure that personal savings made by austerity do find their way into the Fund. (Approved, and the attention of the friends has been drawn to it.)

6. That the Guardian's gift of £1,000 be used for current expenditure and all income until that is expended be used for repayment of the overdraft, providing it is ensured that the Africa Fund is not kept short of money by this means. (Adopted.)

### AFRICA

7. That the National Assembly examine whether Bahá'ís with capital could start a business and take a staff with them, drawn from the countries concerned, to Africa. (This is legally possible. A capital of at least £2,000 is needed. If any British believers are interested, they should get in touch with the Africa Committee. The idea has also been brought to the attention of co-operating national assemblies.)

8. That the names and addresses of African Students' Organisations in each University be discovered, with a view to contacting the African Students. (Passed to the Africa Committee for action. They have appointed a sub-committee for such purposes as this. It has also been referred to co-operating national assemblies.)

9. That the National Assembly list ways in which local assemblies can foster contact with Africans and institutions in this country relating to Africa. (Referred to the Africa Committee for action, and also to co-operating national assemblies.)

10. That the National Assembly examine the possibility of relating jobs to available pioneers to Africa. (Referred to the Africa Committee.)

### CONSOLIDATION

11. That the regional organisation be reviewed with the object of forming more compact and economical

regional committees. Also that they consider how these Committees could work more efficiently and inspire more confidence. (The Regional organisation was reviewed and a new and simpler system worked out.)

12. That the attention of the friends be brought to Mr. Townshend's suggestion that clergy and church workers be attracted to the Faith by a devotional approach and that, at a certain stage, when they are interested, they be put in touch with Mr. Townshend. (Circulated to Local Assemblies.)

13. That special consideration be given to the needs of London as the metropolis of the British Empire and covering such a wide area, and that this be considered particularly in regard to Africa. (Passed to the Consolidation Committee and the Southern Teaching Committee.)

14. That Local Assemblies should be encouraged to train themselves and their members both in business consultation and in coping with the small problems of the Cause. (This is part of the policy of the Consolidation Committee.)

15. That the National Assembly investigate the possibility of holding a World Religion Day. (Referred to all Teaching Committees for recommendations.)

### PUBLISHING TRUST

16. That the Publishing Trust Committee investigate the situation regarding sales and the proportion of Bahá'í to non-Bahá'í sales with a view to settling a point or time when this organisation may be brought more closely into line with more normal business profit-making practice. (Referred to the Publishing Trust Committee.)

17. That the National Assembly investigate the possibility of making the Publishing Trust a profit-making concern. (The N.S.A. considered this, but felt that it would not be in the best interests of the Cause to change the current policy of selling books as cheaply as can be done without making a loss.)

### PUBLIC RELATIONS

18. That Eruch Munsiff be asked to provide the National Assembly with his suggestions for public relations work.

19. That the American National Assembly be asked to provide us with samples of their public relations material.

20. That the National Assembly implement the recommendations of the Report on Public Relations in accordance with the guidance given by the Guardian in his recent letter.

21. That the National Assembly appoint a Committee to investigate what can be done to publicise the Cause during the Festival of Britain.

22. That the suggestions about Public Relations made on behalf of the Glasgow Community be passed to the National Assembly for the Committee that will handle Public Relations.

### SUMMER SCHOOL

23. That Summer School should have increased provision for children's training. (Referred to the Summer School Committee.)



24. That attempts be made to hold a Summer School or week-end school in Scotland or Northern Ireland in 1952. (Referred to the respective Teaching Committees and to the Consolidation Committee for comment.)

25. That the Summer School Committee be asked to study the possibility of equalising the fares of those attending Summer School. (Referred to the Summer School Committee for report.)

26. In view of the fact that Summer School is a most valuable institution of the Cause in Britain for consolidation and that omitting it would not contribute to austerity or economy, that it be preserved. (Accepted.)

#### YOUTH

27. That the National Youth Committee invite each youth throughout the country to think of ways in which they could serve the Cause in their locality and apply to the Committee for assistance, thereby stimulating youth work appropriate to the abilities and capacities of Bahá'í youth throughout the country. (Passed to the Youth Committee.)

28. That the National Assembly try to arrange in one locality or on one farm for Bahá'í Youth to go there during the summer, and to arrange a Bahá'í programme there. (Passed to the Persian Committee.)

29. That an editorial Committee be entrusted with the publication and production of the *Youth Bulletin*, under the supervision and guidance of the National Youth Committee, and that every care be taken to see this does not in any way jeopardise the activities of youth in other respects. (It has been decided to discontinue the *Youth Bulletin*.)

30. That the National Assembly encourage youth to publish their own bulletin and help them in every way to maintain its high standard. (See above.)

31. The Convention delegates express their appreciation of the National Youth Committee's endeavour to support the Shrine Fund and are grateful for their support. (Endorsed.)

32. That a system be studied for the exchange of youth visitors between the British and other Bahá'í Communities. (Referred to Youth Committee.)

33. That the National Assembly consider setting up Scottish and Irish Youth Committees to act in co-operation with the National Youth Committee, but to have special interest in Scottish and Irish youth work. (One has been appointed for Scotland. In view of resolution number 35, and the fact that there is scarcely any Bahá'í youth in Ireland, it was not possible to appoint an Irish Youth Committee.)

34. That the Convention deeply appreciates the activity of the National Youth Committee during the past year and recommends that the National Assembly gives great encouragement and support to youth work, which is an indispensable ingredient of the Bahá'í Community and especially of the Two Year Plan. (Endorsed.)

35. That the National Youth Committee be advised to concentrate its activities on developing youth work in those towns where there are sufficient youth to make organised youth work possible. (Adopted.)

#### CHILD EDUCATION

36. That the verbatim report of the session on child education be sent to the National Assembly for study. (It is hoped the verbatim report will be available.)

37. That the Child Education Committee makes a survey to get a clear idea of the problems that confront parents, and if it is felt that the Guardian should be consulted, this should be done. (Passed to the Child Education Committee.)

38. That efforts should be made to guide Bahá'í parents on ways and means of bringing their children up in the Bahá'í way of life. (Passed to the Child Education Committee.)

39. That the National Assembly stimulate Local Assemblies to take up the responsibility given them by the Master for the training of Bahá'í children. (A statement for Local Assemblies is being prepared.)

40. That the appointment of the Child Education Committee should be made with regard to the broad foundation for the development of children's work which needs to be laid in the British Isles. (Agreed.)

41. That literature for children should be of the highest standard, both as to content and production. (Passed to the Child Education Committee.)

#### MISCELLANEOUS

42. That the price per copy be put in every *Journal*, and those who would like to contribute towards this invited to do so. (Resolved to publish in the *Journal* the approximate annual cost of the *Journal* per person and to state that the Assembly would gladly accept yearly contributions from believers. The *Journal* will be sent to everyone, however, regardless of payment.)

43. That the National Assembly institute a news service in addition to the *Journal*, which will get news to the friends more quickly. (Resolved that after every meeting of the N.S.A. a newsletter will be sent to every L.S.A. for reading at the 19-day Feast, quoting in local bulletins, etc. Area Teaching Committees also will be encouraged to issue bulletins. This, with the *Journal* and *Africa News* should provide plenty of news.)

44. That the National Assembly be asked to consider ways and means of streamlining the agenda and procedure of Convention, in view of the experience at this Convention of a large number of delegates having to deal with a very full agenda. (This will be carefully considered.)

45. That the agenda be circulated to Local Assemblies far enough in advance for Communities to confer on it. (The N.S.A. thoroughly agrees with this. Every effort is made to circulate agendas about three weeks before Convention.)

#### The Melbourne Assembly

The Melbourne Spiritual Assembly would be very glad to correspond with any or all the local assemblies in the British Isles. Any Assembly wishing to correspond should write to Mr. Neil R. Riches, Liaison Secretary, Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the City of Melbourne, 24 Tolls Ave., Mentone, Victoria, Australia.



## NATIONAL COMMITTEES

**AFRICA.** '(1) Under the direction of the National Assembly, to carry out the Africa Project as set out in the Guardian's letter of February, 1951. (2) To obtain translations of Bahá'í literature into African languages and to advise the Publishing Trust regarding their publication.' Henry Backwell (Chairman), David Hofman (Secretary), John Ferraby, Marion Hofman, Rustom Sabit, Mehdi Samandari.

**BAHA'I JOURNAL.** Editor — Joe Jameson.

**BAHA'I PUBLISHING TRUST.** 'To be responsible for the policy and direction of the affairs of the Bahá'í Publishing Trust under the supervision of the National Spiritual Assembly.' John Shortland (Chairman), John Ferraby (Manager and Secretary), Reg Coulson (Treasurer and Distribution Manager), Constance Langdon-Davies, Brian Townshend.

**CHILD EDUCATION.** 'To study, advise and encourage Bahá'í education of children and provide suitable material, with special reference to Convention Resolutions 36 to 41.' Terry Dunne, Betty Goode, Margaret Sullivan, Elsie Lee.

**CONSOLIDATION.** '(1) To do all possible to enhance the recognition of the spiritual station of Local Assemblies as Trustees of the Merciful and to foster in the Local Assemblies a sense of spiritual responsibility for the welfare and progress of the Cause and towards the members of their communities. (2) To facilitate deepening in the Cause of all believers. (3) To collaborate when required with the area Teaching Committees in maintaining Local Assemblies with pioneers. (4) To strive to inculcate a spirit of love amongst the believers as well as a sense of love for and pride in the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh. (5) To co-ordinate inter-regional teaching by all visitors from abroad. (6) To study certain committee reports and maintain a constant review of the working of the Cause in the British Community, so as to provide constructive suggestions on consolidation either to the National Assembly or to the other Committees through the National Assembly. (7) To promote the fullest use of all Bahá'í agencies. (8) To produce the Assembly Development Review.' Dorothy Ferraby (Secretary), Richard Backwell, Hasan Balyuzi, John Shortland.

**OVERSEAS SCHOOLCHILDREN.** '(1) To advise the wardens of overseas schoolchildren when asked. (2) To collect information about schools and be ready to advise at any time. (3) To discuss and make recommendations to the National Assembly regarding the Bahá'í education of overseas schoolchildren.' Habib Hazari, Bobbie Kamming, Constance Langdon-Davies, John Mitchell.

**PERSIAN.** 'To advise and where necessary help Persian Bahá'ís in this country. To concern itself with and make recommendations to the National Assembly about their welfare and happiness.' Ziaollah Asgarzadeh, Abbas Dehkan, Habib Hazari, Vajdi Mohtadi, Mehdi Samandari, Shamsi Sedahghat.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS.** 'To implement the recommendations of the report on Public Relations in accordance

with the guidance given by the Guardian in his letter of February 25.' Iraj Ayman, Joan Benfield, Ian Semple, John Shortland.

**REVIEWING.** '(1) To review all material for publication except material reviewed by other national committees and letters sent to newspapers and non-Bahá'í periodicals. (2) To consider the accuracy of Bahá'í facts and teachings therein. (3) To consider literary style and presentation.' Evelyn Baxter, Constance Langdon-Davies, Isobel Slade.

**SERVICE FOR THE BLIND.** 'To be responsible for all matters relating to literature for the blind.' John Banoy, John Mitchell, Betty Reed, John Shortland.

**TEACHING.** '(1) To encourage and assist Local Assemblies in their area to maintain a high standard and tempo of teaching work. (2) To co-ordinate teaching demands and meet Local Assembly needs for teachers outside their own locality. (3) To arrange inter-regional teaching where advantageous. (4) To keep in touch with and encourage the isolated believers in their area. (5) In regard to maintaining assemblies, they have the duty to do everything possible to fill the gaps by teaching, but at the same time to keep the Consolidation Committee informed whenever numbers in any community fall below nine, together with their recommendations, in case it should prove necessary to seek for pioneers to maintain that assembly.' *Northern* (Blackburn, Blackpool, Bradford, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Sheffield, Stockport). Vida Backwell, Ernest Gregory, Joe Jameson, Stan Lowe, Marcel Mihaeloff. *Southern* (Birmingham, Bournemouth, Brighton, Bristol, Cardiff, London, Northampton, Norwich, Oxford, Torquay). Hugh McKinley (Secretary), Gladys Backwell, Sydney Barrett, Joan Giddings, Egon Kamming. *Irish* (Belfast, Dublin). Jean Beattie, John Deacon, Sidney Price, Olive Sutton, Adib Taherzadeh. *Scottish* (Edinburgh, Glasgow). Iraj Ayman, George Marshall, Vera Rate, Millie Wanless, Ada Williams.

**YOUTH.** 'To stimulate youth activity in local communities. To encourage Bahá'í youth to consort with and attract non-Bahá'í youth.' Jack Banani, Kathleen Hainsworth, Ernie Lacey, Fuad Majzub, Iraj Poostchi, Margaret Shanks.

**SCOTTISH YOUTH.** 'To promote youth work in Scotland.' Manouchehr Derakhshani, Joan Field, Iraj Hakim, Agnes Kidd, Jean McLean, Helen Morton.

### MANUSCRIPTS FOR REVIEW

The National Assembly wishes it to be known that in future manuscripts submitted to the Reviewing Committee for review will be retained by the National Assembly, together with a copy of the recommendations of the Committee. Those submitting manuscripts should make certain that they have a copy of the manuscript. Modifications in the manuscript made after it has been approved, other than those recommended by the Reviewing Committee, must be submitted for approval.



## FROM THE GUARDIAN

TO THE FRIENDS IN DAR-ES-SALAAM

July 27th, 1951.

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

Your letter made our beloved Guardian very happy. His thoughts—and hopes—are constantly focused these days on the wonderful work opening up in Africa, and he rejoiced to see so many of you united there in Tanganyika.

Truly this Cause moves forward propelled by forces more than we can see or grasp; God has surely raised you up and given you this blessed privilege, this unique privilege, of kindling the Light of His Faith there and writing your name in history.

How significant that the first group to be formed in the heart of Africa is composed of believers from the East and the West, united, working side by side to bring the Message of the Blessed Beauty to one of the great waiting races of the world, hitherto oppressed and disregarded, but now being offered the waters of life and a wonderful future.

You may be sure your activities will be supported by his special and fervent prayers, and that he awaits with keen interest news of every new development in your work.

While being wise and tactful you should, however, never lose sight of the fact that it is to the African peoples, primarily, that your mission is addressed. To bring them into our world-wide brotherhood is your duty and privilege.

With warm Bahá'í love,

R. RABBANI.

Dear and valued co-workers,

I was so pleased to receive your letter and am greatly encouraged by your exemplary and magnificent response. You have indeed set a noble example, and the record of your services will, I trust, enrich the annals of the Faith. Persevere in your labours, and rest assured that the Beloved will watch over you and sustain and guide you in your historic and highly meritorious activities.

Your true and grateful brother,

SHOGHI.

### Sale of Goods for National Fund

Dear Friends,

Many thanks for your very kind gifts. Amongst them have been a dinner suit, smokers' requisites, a necklace, horse glasses, five suits and a picture. However, we are still a long way from paying off the overdraft, and if you find any more articles you can donate, please post them to Mrs. Backwell, 23 Cardigan Road, Leeds 6.

Yours gratefully,

MICKEY AND VIDA

### Austerity Savings

The National Assembly wishes to make it clear that individuals should feel free to contribute to whichever Fund they please savings resulting from personal austerity.

## BUDGET

June 21st, 1951—June 20th, 1952

	£	£
International Fund ... ..		300
Africa Fund ... ..		500
Teaching, Consolidation & Public Relations:		
Irish Teaching Committee ... ..	50	
Scottish Teaching Committee ... ..	50	
Northern Teaching Committee ... ..	100	
Southern Teaching Committee ... ..	100	
Consolidation Committee—Interim ... ..	25	
Current ... ..	200	
Pioneer reserve ... ..	200	
Teaching & Consolidation reserve ... ..	200	
Public Relations Committee ... ..	50	
	—	975
Other Committees:		
Youth Committees ... ..	50	
Child Education ... ..	25	
Other Committees' reserve ... ..	25	
	—	100
Institutions:		
Convention ... ..	40	
Summer School ... ..	50	
Teaching Conference ... ..	30	
	—	120
Journal ... ..		150
National Spiritual Assembly:		
Cables ... ..	40	
Literature & Printing ... ..	100	
Meeting Place (London Centre) ... ..	75	
Secretariat (Salary, typing, stationery, postage, etc.) ... ..	800	
Telephone ... ..	30	
Travel ... ..	80	
	—	1125
Charges:		
Audit & Legal ... ..	80	
Bank Charges, Commission, Interest ... ..	60	
	—	140
Townshend Fund (British contribution) ... ..		140
Relief Fund ... ..		150
Contingencies & Sundries—reserve ... ..		100
TOTAL ... ..		£3800

## BAHÁ'Í YOUTH BULLETIN

The demands of austerity, rising costs of printing, and the need for Bahá'í youth to concentrate on building up the youth membership of the community have caused the National Assembly to decide to suspend publication of the 'Bahá'í Youth Bulletin'. A statement about outstanding subscriptions will be published shortly. It is proposed to send all unpublished material held by the Editor of the 'Youth Bulletin' to Australia for consideration for inclusion in 'The Herald of the South'; if anyone who has submitted material for the 'Youth Bulletin' does not wish his contribution to be sent to Australia, will he please write at once to the National Assembly. The material will be sent shortly after the publication of this issue of *Bahá'í Journal*.



## THE BAHÁ'Í WORLD

**PORTUGAL.** A 'Day Conference' was held in Lisbon on April 29th, when the seven points given in the Guardian's cable to the Teaching Conference at Copenhagen last year were considered and recommendations made to the new Assembly. There is a considerable widening of activities in Lisbon. About thirty friends were at the dockside to see a new Bahá'í family off to Mozambique, Portuguese East Africa, a virgin territory. Another member left Lisbon last December for Luanda, Angola, Portuguese West Africa, another virgin territory. Friends in Lisbon are working on a pamphlet to be translated into one of the African dialects used in these Portuguese territories.

**ITALY.** Thrilling news comes of the formation of new Assemblies in Florence and Naples through the efforts of Marion Little for the past year in Florence, and by the frequent teaching visits of Ugo and Angeline Giachery in Naples. Miss Emma Mortenson has been transferred from the American Consulate in Copenhagen to Milan where she has already set to work. A fireside meeting was addressed by Mrs. Mildred Mottahedeh during her recent visit and several contacts are asking for information and literature.

**SWITZERLAND.** There has been a rapid increase in the number of Bahá'ís in Bern in the last three months. The active Youth Group of Zurich is continuing extension work in Baden and Winterthur. The 'all-Swiss' Bahá'í Community of Wolfhalden, in the north-east corner of Switzerland, has undertaken extension work in St. Gallen, where there is one new believer and a group of interested contacts. Two Persian students in Lausanne are doing excellent teaching work with the help of the friends in Bern, Zurich and Geneva.

**LUXEMBOURG.** In spite of several of the newly declared believers having taken up residence in other countries, the Bahá'í Community of Luxembourgville is holding its own, and reports new believers. They report with deep regret the departure for the U.S.A. of Miss Sally Sanor, one of the first pioneers to Luxembourg, who has worked steadily to build a strong Bahá'í Community.

**BELGIUM.** Brussels has lost one of its staunchest members in the departure of Madame Rose-Spanoghe for Ostend; she was an indefatigable worker, and a great help with translation. The Book Sales Committee in Brussels is functioning efficiently. The P.T. Committee now have a new French Prayer Book ready and are preparing a new edition of *Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era*.

**HOLLAND.** The friends in Holland have swung into a steady teaching campaign. Regular classes have been maintained in Amsterdam, Bussum and The Hague. Feasts are well attended and have fine consultation periods. A children's class has been started and a beautiful children's prayer book is being made by Mrs. Buys, an artist.

**DENMARK.** The Copenhagen Bahá'í Community is doing extension work in Jutland and a group of people in Aalstrup have been interested in the Faith.

**SWEDEN.** Extension work by the Bahá'ís of Stockholm is being steadily developed. In Gothenburg there are five declared believers. Don Corbin is expected to return soon from the U.S.A. and to settle in Sweden.

**NORWAY.** The last days of January saw the formation of the first Scandinavian Bahá'í Committee. Three members from Copenhagen and two from Stockholm attended the week-end meeting in Oslo for organisation and consultation. The Bahá'í bonds of fellowship are uniting these northern countries into one close unit, presaging the future Regional National Spiritual Assemblies mentioned by the Guardian.

**GERMANY.** April 28th, opening day of the twenty-first National Convention of the Bahá'ís of Germany and Austria in Stuttgart, saw also the opening of the new Hazíratu'l-Quds (Administrative Centre) following the 19-Day Feast in which all delegates participated. The house, not entirely completed, is a four storey building and is centrally situated. The great joy of the friends was shared by many Bahá'í visitors from abroad. All took away a feeling of deep gratitude and responsibility for the 'still more glorious enterprises' yet to come.

### Ella Goodall Cooper

Ella Goodall Cooper of San Francisco, one of the first Bahá'ís in California, passed away on July 12th at the age of eighty, just four days after the death of her husband. Taught by Lua Getsinger, she was one of that first party of American pilgrims who visited 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 'Akká in 1898-99. She and her wonderful mother pioneered the Faith in California and throughout the Western States of America, her mother being the recipient of the Master's two Tablets of the Divine Plan addressed to the Western States. She was a radiant Bahá'í, alive with youthful vigour and a beauty of spirit and face to the last. She shared her bounties without stint and her kindly acts are beyond number. Friends in England will join with many throughout the world in a sense of grievous loss, yet knowing that the passing of such a heavenly soul is a great and joyful event in the Kingdom. We think of her now with 'Abdu'l-Bahá, for in His own words to her He wrote: 'Under all conditions My Soul and My Life shall abide with you in this world as well as the world above.'

### Shrine of the Bab

Mr. Norton reports that by July 11th contributions to the Shrine Fund amounted to £742 19s. 4d., of which £118 7s. 10d. came from Assemblies and £624 11s. 6d. from individuals.