

# BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

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A little-known photograph of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

**STOPPRESS**—ALL GOALS ACHIEVED. INITIAL PHASE OF SIX YEAR PLAN COMPLETED.

## THE WORK OF THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

Dear Friends, we feel it important that you should know as much as possible how the N.S.A. sets about its work, as well as what problems it has to face. Your prayers and thoughts for our guidance and confirmation, particularly during N.S.A. sessions, will, we feel sure, contribute greatly to the discharge of our heavy duties, and we earnestly ask you to give this assistance.

Our meetings normally begin on Friday evening and go on until late on Sunday night. During that time we spend some 20 hours in consultation. Twelve of these meetings per year means 240 hours or six working weeks of 40 hours.

The following agenda is from our meeting of March 26th-27th-28th.

### RECURRENT ITEMS.

- Minutes
- Secretary's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Correspondence with the Guardian
- Letter for Journal
- Communication to the Friends
- Communication to the Guardian

### WORLD COMMUNITY

- Letter from USA about Geneva Conference
- Persian Students

### COMMITTEES

- Teaching
- Assembly Development
- Youth
- Finance
- Scripts
- Child Education
- Literature for the Blind
- Contacts
- Esperanto Congress
- Summer School

### LOCAL ASSEMBLIES.

- Two items

### OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

- Annual Report (including selection of cables)
- Convention—Agenda, Voting List
- New Premises

### INDIVIDUALS.

- Declarations
- Nine Other Items

### OTHER MATTERS.

- Next Year's Goals
- Relationship of the NSA to the Community
- Balance of Administrative, Teaching and Pioneering activities
- Statement on NSA Procedure
- Article on Bahá'í Business Principles
- London Compilations
- "Crusade for World Government"

## NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE.

Since our last report in October, we are delighted to share the news of the steady advance and consolidation of Bahá'í Youth activities all over the British Isles; of a most successful and animated Regional Youth Conference; and of the formation of two more local Youth Committees in Bradford and Nottingham. In addition, two more L.S.A.'s are to consider a recommendation from the N.Y.C. to form L.Y.C.'s.

A fine degree of co-operation has been maintained through correspondence with the N.Y.C.'s of Germany, Egypt, Iran and America; especially the latter, from whom we have just received a grand issue of their Youth Letter which indicates great activity over there.

We take this opportunity of extending a very hearty welcome to the many visiting Youth that have come to live in Britain since Summer School from Norway, from Australia, and from Iran, and we look forward to meeting them *en bloc* at Convention after the triumphant achievement of the Initial Phase.

Regional Youth Conference, which took place in Manchester over the week-end of 29th-30th November, was for the Youth of the Northern Region. The wonderful Devotional programme with which the week-end commenced on the Saturday afternoon deepened the awareness of all those present, and set a high level of dedication which did not drop during the whole Conference. No less than 44 people were present at the social evening which followed, and the joyous, and enthusiastic spirit which prevailed was even more apparent during the following day when the Conference proper commenced.

On the theme of "Building a Virile Community", full and intense discussion took place, over thirty people taking part. Various types of communities were discussed; the relationship of the individual to the community and *vice versa*, what we Bahá'í Youth were doing in the task of building the Community of the Most Great Name, and an intense realization of the pressing needs of the Six Year Plan. These are among the many points dealt with, and space forbids a fuller account. The following cable was sent to the Guardian:

"Youth Conference deeply aware revitalizing strength your prayers our behalf evidenced in unrestrained consultation confirming integration personal and communal activity new spirit all hearts. Aroused consciousness vital necessity express ever-increasing devotion in total activity. Conference representing thirteen towns under thirty participants highlighted one declaration and one offer pioneering virgin territories recent believer Charles Dunning. Pledge total resources fulfilment sacred responsibilities achievement immediate goals. Deepest loving greetings."



And his reply was :

Deeply rejoice heartily admire resourcefulness zeal dedication British Bahá'í Youth challenging historic tasks confronting British Bahá'í Community. Fervent prayers ascending Throne Bahá'u'lláh their behalf. Urge incessant efforts enlarge scope meritorious activities consolidate magnificent achievements. Shoghi."

Since R.Y.C., the N.Y.C. have been busy with plans for the celebration of International Youth Day on February 22nd, and in collaboration with the N.T.C., meetings and symposiums have been arranged in nearly every local Bahá'í community. This year's theme is "Youth Challenging the Old World Order," and we will include a report of it at a later date.

Consultation has taken place between representatives of the N.Y.C. and the majority of the L.Y.C.'s, and these are now functioning vigorously, and are actively engaged in expanding their activities.

Weekly youth meetings, organised solely by the Youth, are being held in two communities, and character-training classes for children have been run in one instance by the Youth Correspondent.

A policy of encouraging a greater circulation of literature has been vigorously pursued, both in the form of Youth Bulletins and small pamphlets, and with the close co-operation of Local Assemblies, and of the N.T.C., much free literature has been made available to the Youth.

Youth speakers have been most active, and are being used more and more in the Co-ordinated Teaching Plan, and Youth were especially active at Teaching Conference and at the Regional Unity Feast.

In order to place its members at the disposal of the N.T.C., the N.Y.C. has offered to arrange its meetings in goal towns or other places where needed, so that a Youth Symposium can be put on during the week-end. This was welcomed by the N.T.C., and has already been used in Liverpool.

The editorial work of the Bulletin has been reorganised, in order to allow a greater variety of contribution. The members of the Editorial Committee are each contributing the Editorial, National News and International News in turn, and L.Y.C.'s are being asked to compile the Devotional Page. Reports of enthusiastic reception, and deep appreciation are being received from all over the world, especially from the European pioneers.

Looking ahead, the N.Y.C. have plans in hand for a concerted intensification of Youth activity over the whole country as the scope of the Plan expands and widens in the year in front of us. Vol. 2, No. 4 of the Bulletin is almost sold out ;

we expect to increase the number per edition in the near future, and circulate it to more countries than the fifty it now reaches.

The letter to the N.Y.C. from our beloved Guardian dated 28th September, 1947, was published in the December Number of the "Journal." In it he says : "... the Beloved is well-pleased with your splendid accomplishments ..." In the face of such a statement the N.Y.C. feels both very humble, and also very inadequate. Conscious, however, that the Guardian is waiting to hear of the expansion of the Youth work, and also of the Master's wish : that our efforts should increase "a thousandfold," the N.Y.C. pledges its devotion as never before to the service of Bahá'í Youth in Great Britain.

### "THE DAY OF GOD."

In these relatively early days of the Faith in these islands, it is rare for one to find much opportunity for full and frequent Bahá'í fellowship. So far from an entire district, village, ward or quarter being Bahá'í, there is no town yet where Bahá'í families live even two or three to a road or street and near enough to one another to permit of regular or casual happy intermingling hospitality and association.

It is therefore a matter for no great surprise that the Guardian should have laid such high stress upon the institution of our Summer School, for which he indicated a threefold importance : as "a vital and inseparable part of any teaching campaign," "an effective medium for teaching," and "an opportunity to deepen our knowledge of the teachings through lectures and discussions and by means of close and intense community life."

Summer School provides the occasion each year when every Bahá'í can joyfully live in some degree according to his or her own capacity, both in giving and receiving, and so achieving happiness, being treated as a human individual, and so treating others, consistently turning a blind eye to shortcomings which all people possess, and encouraging the valuable good qualities which, also, all people possess, knowing that only through the milk and honey of loving kindness and that kindly tongue which is "the bread of the spirit" can inadequacies be made whole and human beings be improved and won to, or confirmed in, the Cause of God.

At this year's Summer School, the programme has been planned for three weeks, to a theme of "The Day of God," recalling and amplifying the themes of the last two years : "The Way of God" and "The Covenant of God." Each week will be complete in itself, yet integrated to fit into the full over all theme. Thus the main morning sessions—the only commitment in the mornings—will be devoted to "The

Dawnbreakers," related to the life and ministry of the Báb; "God Passes By," related to those of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá," and "Advent of the Kingdom," related to the rise of the New World Order.

Then, as adjunct to the main programme, there is a new study method to be tried out, which has been given the name "Workshops." A group, with a leader or "chargehand," will make its own arrangements for special daily study for a week, of one of four main subjects: "Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh," "Some Christian Subjects," "Pattern of Bahá'í Life," "Teaching Methods." Each group will prepare a report for presentation to the School and possibly to form part of the material for the production of a full study outline of those subjects for more permanent use.

We look forward to seeing as many as possible of the believers for at least one week, to provide support and to derive profit from an institution whose "teaching value for England cannot be over estimated."

SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

### JOHN MARSHALL

The sudden passing to the Abhá Kingdom of our dearly loved friend, John Ludlow Marshall came as a great shock to his many Bahá'í friends throughout the British Isles. For with him one more precious link with our beloved Master has passed from us. "Johnny," as we affectionately called him, was one of the few remaining believers in this country to have been privileged to meet 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 1911 and 1913 when He honoured this land by His presence on its shores. And it was the Master Himself who was the source of confirmation to Mr. Marshall.

Born at Carlisle, Lanarkshire, Scotland, on 10th April 1876, the eldest of a family of six, Mr. Marshall as early as eleven years of age worked as a tinsmith to help support the home. Later he settled in Birmingham with his wife and family where he continued to pursue his trade.

Mr. Marshall perpetually regretted not having had the opportunity for higher education; and, having an unusually alert mind and an insatiable thirst after knowledge and truth, he associated himself, even to the last days of his life, with the Workers' Educational Association.

For many years he was the only resident Bahá'í in Birmingham. During this long period of isolation from his fellow believers, he informed many people of the principles of the Faith and with marked steadfastness kept alive the spirit of Bahá'u'lláh in that place. He served on one of the earliest administrative committees constituted in this country, having been appointed to it by the Master Himself. One of the most

noteworthy chapters in the history of the Birmingham Community is the magnificent record left by Mr. Marshall of the visits and lectures of such renowned teachers as Martha Root, Dr. J. E. Esslemont, Mr. Mountford Mills, and Mrs. Helen Bishop.

Even prior to the formation of the Local Spiritual Assembly of that city, Mr. Marshall became one of the first pioneers to arise from its ranks, when at the age of 71 he retired from his work, left his home and family, and went forth to serve his beloved Faith on his native soil, Scotland.

Edinburgh will always remember "Johnny" . . . his beaming smile, his prized tweed hat, his vivid tartan tie, shepherd-plaid jersey, and his pockets filled to bulging with every conceivable object from oat-cakes to concert tickets. He it was who coaxed a smile from his fellow pioneers when frowning was easiest; who tramped through rain, snow and wind carrying messages, placing advertisements, finding those needed extra cups, or queuing for that special cake. He it was who hunted out and contacted so many people who had known the Master and the Faith in its early days in Edinburgh. And he it was, too, who visited the friends of the Faith—sometimes helping with their shopping, tending the children, giving them information of the Faith and answering their questions . . . leading them gently to the threshold of the Kingdom. One of the new believers, a lady whom he visited many times, was heard to remark that he was truly as the "little child" spoken of in the Bible. In truth, his humility was the token of his faith—his ceaseless services rendered its outward evidence.

And now he has gone from our midst. With an aching heart we miss him. Our Guardian has cabled "Deplore loss valiant soul John Marshall praying for him." We know that indeed "with joyful tidings of light" he is hailed by the Hosts of the Abhá Kingdom and that once more he is united with the beloved Master.

### A Request of the Guardian.

A letter has been received from the Persian National Spiritual Assembly pointing out that news of trials and vicissitudes of Persian friends in recent times was not for publication in the non-Bahá'í press. This is the express wish of the Guardian, who wrote the Persian National Assembly: "The publication of these tragic events in the non-Bahá'í papers abroad is inadvisable as it would fail to bring about the desired aim, moreover it would serve to inflame the hatred and prejudice of opponents and fanatics." Local Assemblies and Bahá'í Groups are therefore asked not to use such news in any of their local press publicity.



## Contribution to the Six Year Plan—

### TORQUAY

The Torquay Bahá'í community has always had a floating population. One member, Arnold van Ogtrop, has gone back to Holland and is taking part in the European Bahá'í plan in Holland, two have gone to South Africa, one to Canada, one to Cornwall, and one to the Isle of Man.

As regards Britain's Six Year Plan, Torquay's chief contribution has been giving up the two McKinleys to go to Cardiff. This was a particular sacrifice because Hugh was our only man and our only youth member and they had moved to Torquay to help us when we were in danger of losing assembly status ourselves.

Mrs. White and Mrs. Matthews have been on various teaching trips and their activity seems to be continually increasing. Mrs. Matthews has also helped with Book Exhibitions and a special campaign in St. Ives and has given her name as a possible member of the last ditch plan.

Torquay community has done extension work in co-operation with the Teaching Committee in Exeter and also in Dartington, where several meetings have been held recently in the same house where Mark Tobey held his original Bahá'í meetings in 1936.

Special activities of our own have been co-operation with the Torquay Unitarian Church at their social and exchange of speakers with their church. The whole congregation of the Unitarian Church came to our meeting on one Sunday and we all went to their church on another Sunday.

The most unique activity of Torquay is Mrs. Matthews' Children's Class which has attracted quite a large number of non-Bahá'í children and there was an attendance of seventy at her children's party. Torquay is probably the only community where a regular Children's Class for non-Bahá'í children is held as Shoghi Effendi recommended in a letter to the Child Education Committee.

In National Administration we have had members of the community on the N.S.A., the Summer School Committee, Youth Committee and other Committees.

Torquay and Bradford were the first Assemblies to be formed after the two metropolis communities—London and Manchester. After the Six Year Plan, when its strengthening effect upon the old Communities becomes apparent, we hope our community will be reinforced with fresh blood. Till then we will go on trying to help the Six Year Plan even if we drain ourselves dry in the process.

"The Ancient Beauty hath consented to be bound with chains that mankind may be released from its bondage."

BAHÁ'U'LLÁH.

## FROM THE GUARDIAN

The Assembly cabled 2nd February:

"Assembly overwhelmed vision disclosed your cable. Regret report accidental death loved friend John Marshall. Teaching Committee work reorganised Marion Hofman retaining secretaryship. Beseech continued prayers devoted love."

The Guardian replied 6th February:

"Deplore loss valiant soul John Marshall praying for him. Praying continually ever increasing success greatly admired deeply loved high spirited British Bahá'í Community."

On 23rd February we cabled reporting declarations, pioneers and the Regional Unity Feast, mentioning also the difficulties we still face. The Guardian replied on 25th February:

"Increasingly admire deeply thankful progress historic achievements blessed community. Delighted response Edinburgh assure Olga Mills Alfred Sugar Lucy best wishes loving appreciation praying removal difficulties."

### Additions to the Community.

Since the last list was published in the Journal, registration cards have been received from the following:

Jean Court  
(from Luxemburg) .....Edinburgh  
Bahieh Jalili (from Persia) Eynsham  
Tahereh Vatanparast  
(from Persia) .....Birmingham  
Bruce McCombe (from New  
Zealand) .....London  
Pouran Mahboubi (from  
Persia) .....Tunbridge Wells  
Derrick Faux .....Painswick  
Adib Taherzadeh (from  
Persia) .....Coventry  
Marion Hocken .....St. Ives  
Ardeshir Khosrovani  
(from Persia) .....London  
Mary Goode .....Birmingham  
Sarah Pitcher .....Birmingham  
Nancy Townshend .....Dublin

### Naw-Ruz Greetings.

The Persian National Spiritual Assembly cabled us for Naw-Ruz: "Offer sincerest congratulations occasion Naw-Ruz Festival Praying success efforts propagation teaching service unity humanity." We replied: "Naw-Ruz message greatly appreciated reciprocate your greetings pray coming year will see expansion everywhere with lessening of hardships."



## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE

The National Spiritual Assembly has drawn up a statement concerning its own procedure for the use of future National Assembly members. We think that the whole Community may find it of interest and it is therefore being published below.

\* \* \* \* \*

N.S.A. procedure may be considered under four heads:

- (1) N.S.A. Meetings.  
(a) Before; (b) During; (c) After.
- (2) Agenda.
- (3) Sub-Committees of the N.S.A.
- (4) Individual responsibility of members.

### 1. N.S.A. MEETINGS.

#### (a) Before

- (i) Reports, procedural statements, minutes, agenda, and special matters are circulated as far in advance of the meeting as is possible.
- (ii) It will normally be assumed that members will have read all such material before the meetings, will have marked in their copies any place where they feel question, comment, or alteration should be made, or positive and relevant proposal should be put, and decided.

#### (b) During

- (i) Minutes of the last meeting will be approved correct and, with the Secretary's Report, will be briefly conned to ensure that all pertinent matters have been entered in the agenda.
- (ii) Items of the agenda will be allotted priority letters, A, B, or C. A means "Must be done during this meeting." B means "Of subsidiary importance." C means "May be postponed if time does not permit discussion."
- (iii) Correspondence to and from the Guardian will always be read.
- (iv) Time will be allowed to consider "World Community" and any mutual obligations.
- (v) Advice and recommendations of experienced committees will normally be accepted without discussion, unless a member has some cogent objection or modifying proposal to offer: such to arise normally from a marginal note already made.
- (vi) Mealtime sessions concerned with N.S.A. business are to be deprecated.

(vii) New material, unless of an urgent or trivial nature, will normally be referred to the appropriate national committee for prior consideration, or to a special sub-committee for analysis and report.

(viii) Punctuality in commencement and termination of sessions, except perhaps on the final evening, should be adhered to.

#### (c) After

- (i) Minutes will be circulated to members as soon after a meeting as is practicable.
- (ii) Members will recollect their right to supply any sub-committees appointed for any matter with such comment or relevant suggestion as may occur to them.
- (iii) The N.S.A. article for the bi-monthly Journal will be prepared by the person appointed, circulated to all members, who will send their comments to the Secretary, who, with the Chairman, will approve the final version for insertion.

### 2.—AGENDA.

- (i) The make-up and classification of items on the typed agenda is the responsibility of the Secretary. It will normally be accompanied by the Secretary's Report, which will contain some indication of the substance of new items.
- (ii) Fresh items may be added to the agenda at any time during the meeting, as deemed appropriate by the members.
- (iii) Allotment of priorities to items on the agenda will be an early action of the meeting.

### 3.—SUB-COMMITTEES.

- (i) These are formed for ad hoc purposes as needed, and cease to exist when that purpose is completed.
- (ii) All items added to the agenda, unless trivial or urgent, or appropriate to a national committee, or specified for different treatment by the Assembly, will be allotted to a sub-committee for preliminary analysis and report.
- (iii) In the case of personal matters, normally received in the form of a written statement from a Local Assembly, or from Groups or isolated believers, the sub-committee will only be empowered to establish and present the facts of the case for the Assembly to consult and decide upon.



- (iv) In the case of procedural matters, the sub-committee will establish the principles and make recommendations, generally presenting the material in written report.
- (v) A sub-committee will report verbally or in writing, as may be appropriate to the subject.
- (vi) The support of other members of the Assembly and their advice may be enlisted by any sub-committee, as deemed necessary.
- (vii) The Chairman and Secretary constitute a sub-committee
  - (a) to take action in emergency between meetings. Such action should not contravene any principle established by the Assembly.
  - (b) to incorporate in the minutes any explanatory matter necessary to make the minutes an adequate and intelligible record.
  - (c) to ensure that the minutes are couched in coherent English.

#### 4.—INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY OF MEMBERS.

- (i) *The Secretary* is the focus to and from which all N.S.A. correspondence passes.

### NORTHERN REGION UNITY FEAST

Once again Manchester has been the scene of a new enterprise in the history of the Cause in this country, for here, on February 15th, the first Regional Unity Feast inaugurated by our National Spiritual Assembly was held. The never failing warmth of loving and generous hospitality displayed by the largest of our Communities undoubtedly contributed greatly to the success of this occasion.

Approximately 40 Bahá'ís and their guests foregathered at noon at the Grosvenor Hotel where, during lunch, greetings were exchanged by representatives of the Northern Communities and a warm welcome was extended to all by the Chairman of the Local Spiritual Assembly.

The session at the Bahá'í Centre opened with a brief address by the Chairman of the National Assembly and the reading of a wonderful letter from the "father" of the Manchester Community, Mr. E. T. Hall.

Next followed a dramatic script "Behold the Light," written specially for the occasion by Hasan Balyuzi, portraying a comparison between the first six years of the first century, the days of the Dawnbreakers (1844-50) and our own first six years of the second century (1944-50). Our Plan, its needs, and the ultimate effect its successful consummation will have on the destiny of the British peoples was the theme of the second part of this moving presentation and its meaning penetrated deep into the conscious-

ness of the listeners. Finally, in a silence so enthralled and reverent that one could almost hear the hearts beating, the friends listened to the overwhelmingly stirring record of the beloved Master's voice chanting the glorious "Glad Tidings."

He is responsible for the preparation of a classified agenda, for the proper presentation of correspondence at meetings, for the maintenance of the National Assembly records, other than archives and accounts, and for the duplication and circulation of the minutes.

The Secretary also prepares a Secretary's Report, sent out with the agenda, which will give a brief account of matters and actions and events occurring since the last meeting. It will be set out under the following heads :

- (a) Matters arising from the minutes.
  - (b) Items on the main agenda.
  - (c) Small items requiring discussion.
  - (d) Matters for report only.
- (ii) *Other members.* The duties of other members in regard to minutes, reports, sub-committees and Journal article, have been set out above under 1 and 3. Each, in addition, has the responsibility implied by the rule that an emergency meeting may be called at the request of any member.

In this spiritual atmosphere, representatives of the National Youth Committee, Assembly Development Committee and the National Teaching Committee, the three most actively engaged in the carrying out of the provisions of our Plan, shared with the friends the needs with which their respective Committees are directly concerned and the means whereby a "triumphant close" of this "initial phase" can be reached.

Bahá'ís, however, never forget that a practical agency is essential, especially when we have an efficient National Treasurer constantly reminding us of the state of "the life blood of the Cause." Her appeal was most moving and conscientious response immediate.

The hearty and harmonious consultation which followed, and precluded the devotional close maintained the high spiritual level which, distinguished the whole of this Unity Feast and was truly the manifestation of a "sound blessed firmly knit, wide awake British Bahá'í Community."

Words are inadequate to describe the radiance of the friends at this gathering, redolent with love, unity and harmony.



# BAHÁ'Í WORLD

**DENMARK.** Two declarations in Copenhagen, Miss May Marit Vestby and Mr. Palle Benemann Bischoff, have been announced by the European Teaching Committee.

**EUROPEAN TEACHING COMMITTEE** has reported a total of 33 declared believers in all of the European goal countries. In addition to "Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era," which already exists in all the different languages concerned, the "Will and Testament," "Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh" and "Bahá'í Community" will be ready soon in each.

**INDIA, PAKISTAN AND BURMA.** Yet a third Assembly, that of Jammu in Kashmir, has been disbanded as the result of dispersion of the believers there, four of whom are reported as missing. The strength of certain Groups has also been affected by the troubled conditions and two believers in Lahore were constrained to leave the city.

The registration of the National Hazira in the name of the National Assembly has been completed and a special cable from the Guardian announced the successful purchase and transfer to the name of the Palestine Branch of the National Spiritual Assembly of India, Pakistan and Burma of property in the vicinity of the Báb's Shrine, overlooking the resting place of the Greatest Holy Leaf.

**ITALY.** Four more declarations in Rome, Signor and Signora Fernando Morosi, Signorina Elisabeta Cofman, Signorina Marianna del Buono-ved-Gasperini, are announced by the European Teaching Committee. Signorina Cofman was first contacted after her address had been submitted by a believer in Britain and passed to the European Teaching Committee by our own National Assembly. Rome should be assured of an assembly this year.

## Declaration Cards.

It has come to the attention of the National Assembly that there has been some confusion concerning the use of the new Declaration Cards. We wish therefore to draw the attention of the friends to the procedure for registering new believers described on page 4 of the "Statement on the Acceptance of New Believers" recently issued and to point out that the Declaration Card is only issued for signature after the believer has been accepted. The card is for purposes of registration only; the believer must have been accepted by a Spiritual Assembly before there can be any question of signing a Declaration Card.

"Be ye guided by wisdom in all your doings and cleave ye tenaciously unto it."

BAHÁ'U'LLÁH.

**JAPAN.** The following is quoted from a letter of Robert Imagire, pioneer to Japan, which was published in Chicago Bahá'í News: "as far as Bahá'í activities are concerned here. I think its (Tokyo) doing quite well. In spite of the fact that the original group has dispersed, through the great enthusiasm of Mr. Inouye, who translated the "New Era" several years ago, the Faith has not completely died here. Since coming to Tokyo he has won new friends, three of whom have become Bahá'ís—Mrs. Urushi, head of the Women's Society for Socialistic Democracy in Japan and also founder of the Shinagana Girl's School, Mr. Horicka, formerly some sort of Foreign Minister in Korea, and Naoki Yoshino, a Manchurian Nisei (19). These with Mr. Inouye's wife and son (28) form the nucleus of the Tokyo Bahá'ís."

**PERSIA.** The Bahá'í Education Committee has already conducted 182 Bahá'í classes attended by 2,869 Bahá'í youth of both sexes, and has also organised 47 meetings for parents to discuss and point out to them the permanent importance of imparting to the young generation of believers the principles of Bahá'í conduct and character. The Teaching Committee organised 2,177 regular weekly meetings for seekers during the last Bahá'í year.

**PORTUGAL.** With the arrival of Valeria Nichols and Louise Baker, the last of the European Teaching Committee goal countries has been opened up.

**U.S.A.** Chicago Bahá'í news reported that work toward the completion of the interior of the Temple at Wilmette was begun December 11th, 1947.

**"Vie ye with each other in the service of God and of His Cause."**

Between January 1st and February 29th the following Assemblies contributed to the National Fund:—

Birmingham  
London  
Manchester  
Northampton  
Nottingham  
Torquay