

PRE-CONVENTION NUMBER

BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

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Dear Friends,

The response to our appeal for funds to carry on the work until the end of April, has been most disappointing. The amount required is £30, and without this the N.S.A. will have to curtail its programme of Teaching. Let every believer ask himself this question:

Do I want the Faith to Progress in England ?

If you answer 'yes,' it means you will make sacrifices. In these days of growing tension, does it not become increasingly apparent that only the Cause of God will provide a refuge for despairing humanity? Is it not our supreme privilege to expend ourselves, our effort, our money, in its service? Moreover, in the days to come, are we to face the reproach that we could have made greater efforts?

Send your contribution to-day, however small, to Mrs. Brown, 14 Frogna! Mansions, Hampstead, N.W.3. Our support of the Fund is the gauge of the measure of our Faith.

DO IT NOW. IT IS IMPORTANT.

CONVENTION

The arrangements for the Convention were printed in the last issue of the Journal, and the friends are asked to refer to it. The delegates have been allotted, as follows:

London	13
Manchester	6

We feel it would be useful to clarify the method of electing the National Spiritual Assembly. In each geographical area where a National Spiritual Assembly is to be elected, a number of delegates, decided by the Guardian in proportion to the number of local Spiritual Assemblies, is assigned. This number is divided among the local Spiritual Assemblies, in proportion to the number of believers in the local community. The local Spiritual Assembly must arrange for the election of delegates in the same way that it arranges other Bahá'í elections. The delegates elected, must then elect the National Spiritual Assembly, on the date set, which is during Convention.

It is not the only function of the Convention, however, to elect the new National Assembly. It should be made an opportunity for consultation between the outgoing Assembly and the believers, and between the new Assembly and the believers. All matters relating to the welfare and development of the Faith

should be discussed in Convention. The delegates have the right to make recommendations to the new National Assembly which it must consider.

We ask the friends to bear in mind that at the Teaching Conference last December, the Convention was decided upon as one of the annual rallying points for all the believers in the country, and it is sincerely hoped that everyone will make an effort to attend. The spiritual refreshment which comes to us all from such contact with our fellow Bahá'ís is of untold value in increasing our enthusiasm and deepening our faith.

Will all friends who are coming, and wish to attend the dinner on the evening of Saturday, April 23rd, kindly advise Mr. Balyuzi so that he can make arrangements; write to him at the Bahá'í Centre. It will not cost more than 2/6.

Let us make this Convention an occasion of spiritual renewal and re-dedication.

ISOLATED BELIEVERS

The following additions and corrections have to be made in the list of isolated believers published in the last number of the Journal.

Baxter, Miss Evelyn, 'Timberscombe,'
Station Road, Orpington, Kent.

Conquest, Miss W., 3 Bardwell Road
Oxford.

Marlowe, Mr. 62 Stourvale Road
Bournemouth.

MacWilliams, Miss T., 4 West Street,
Wimborne.

IN MEMORIAM

Miss H. I. G. Cather.

Miss Gillman.

Mrs. Thornburgh-Cropper.

“Death proffereth unto every confident believer the cup that is life indeed. It bestoweth joy, and is the bearer of gladness. It conferreth the gift of everlasting life.” Bahá'u'lláh.

Lady Blomfield has kindly consented to write a memoir of Mrs. Thornburgh-Cropper's pioneer work in the Faith, and it is hoped to publish this in the next number of the Journal.

SUMMER SCHOOL

The date of Summer School has been changed to open on July 30th. It will be held for three weeks. Negotiations are now being conducted for a school in a beautiful part of Kent, and if they are successful we shall have the whole place to ourselves.

The Dawn

BY CLAUDIA ALDRIDGE

The mists are gathering . . .
Yet far beyond, the sun arises,
Painting with golden streaks, a purple
sky.

A storm-tossed world, groaning beneath
the burden,
Pauses — and with hush awaits the
Dawn . . .

At the first strains of the mystic
Nightingale

Darkness is shaken—but gathering force
Makes one last bid for sovereignty.
Clearer than the dulcet tones are heard
And darkness fades . . .

Slowly, the earth awakens to another day,
A Day of God—in which a world is born.

