

BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

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N.S.A. SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

The joyous Ridván period this year was made even more momentous by the International Convention held in Haifa, at which the Universal House of Justice was re-elected after its first five-year period of office. All nine members of the British National Spiritual Assembly attended the Convention and took part personally in the election. N.S.A. members from the Western Hemisphere joined our own National Assembly in London, and a group of thirty-seven travelled together to Haifa; they came from Venezuela, Mexico, El Salvador, British Honduras, Spanish Honduras, Leeward, Windward and Virgin Islands, United States, Canada, Alaska, Hawaii and Korea, and the organising of the travel between London and Haifa was another example of the service the British N.S.A. is able to render in the sphere of international co-operation.

The National Assembly shared with Delegates and Friends later in the Convention something of the wonderful experience we all had in the Holy Land.

Following the International Convention, many N.S.A. members returned home through London to visit the Grave of Shoghi Effendi, and we had the brief but added joy of their presence. When the Conclave of the Hands of the Cause finished a little later, several Hands passed through the British Isles and we were very happy that Mr. Collis Featherstone was able to meet a group of young Bahá'ís at the Bulmershe Training College in Wokingham R.D., and to speak to a gathering of thirty-five Friends at the Haziratu'l-Quds, both very hastily convened meetings as Mr. Featherstone's stay in London was short. Mrs. Ursula Samandari, a member of the N.S.A. of North East Africa, and Mrs. Freda Butler of the N.S.A. of New Zealand, are still in the British Isles and we welcome them to our Convention.

HOME FRONT POSITION.

The drive for the consolidation and expansion of the Home Front began at the Frankfurt Intercontinental Conference held last October, continued through the nine Regional Conferences held in the British Isles during October and November, was intensified at Teaching Conference held in Leicester in January, and was followed up by constant reports from the N.S.A. to the whole Community on the developing

situation and appeals for pioneers and intensification of teaching. We can now report the re-establishment of four Local Spiritual Assemblies, Inverness, Portsmouth, Epsom and Torbay (for Torquay) and the maintenance of Canterbury, Bristol and Blackpool; but we deeply regret the loss of Chester, Glasgow, Winchester and Ealing, and the fact that it was not possible to regain Northampton or York. During the year ninety-seven pioneer offers were received for the Home Front and forty-one moves were made, which means that there were fewer offers but a higher percentage reached fruition. But the final appeal, prepared by the National Assembly in session during its last meeting before Ridván and mailed individually to every believer, brought only one response, from a believer whose heart was touched but she could not move and wrote to explain why not. We cannot help but recall the Message from the Universal House of Justice to the Intercontinental Conferences "Upon our efforts depends in very large measure the fate of humanity." Another disappointment was that it was not possible to recognise the newly-formed Assembly of Bedford; and equally sad was the unexpected lapsing of the long-established Bradford Assembly. The new Assembly formed in the London Borough of Hounslow cannot yet be recognised, but we hope that recognition will be possible shortly.

The outcome of all this is a total at this moment of 56 Local Spiritual Assemblies in the British Isles, just six more than we had at the end of the Ten Year Crusade at Ridván, 1963, and we are now almost half-way through the Nine Year Plan. By 1973 we must have 100 Local Assemblies. A simple calculation will show that we have gained 6 L.S.A.s in the past five-and-a-half years, and in the next four-and-a-half years we need to gain another 44. (The situation is even more serious when we take into account the nett gain of ten L.S.A.'s in the London Boroughs when the large London Community was split up at Ridván 1966). This is a challenge which the delegates will no doubt want to consider seriously.

The Northern and Other Islands.

At the Frankfurt Intercontinental Conference, special emphasis was laid by the representative of the Universal House of Justice, Hand of the Cause Paul Haney, on the reinforcement of the

Northern Islands, which are goals of the British Community. We have already reported that the Outer Hebrides have been strengthened by another pioneer, and that the Inner Hebrides are to be re-opened very shortly by a pioneer family. Orkneys have been the first island group to have an extended group-teaching project, and one of the Friends on this project hopes to be able to remain in Kirkwall permanently as a pioneer. There has been progress in other islands surrounding our coast: the Isle of Man was re-opened in the last year by a pioneer, and very shortly a young Bahá'í who declared recently in England will be returning to her native island of Jersey. All these islands, and Malta and Faroes too, must have close attention from the British Community this year; pioneers and material resources are urgently needed, and no doubt delegates will wish to consult fully on these vital matters.

New Declarations over the past Four Years.

Each Year the National Assembly has given in its Supplementary Report the number of declarations, adult and youth, for three years; on this occasion the figures are given for four years:—

| | Adult | Youth | Total |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| April 20— | | | |
| 1965 | 86 | 57 | 143 |
| 1966 | 103 | 46 | 149 |
| 1967 | 120 | 24 | 144 |
| 1968 | 105 | 25 | 130 |

It is very disappointing that the total number of new declarations in the last year is the lowest. But news of declarations received since Ridván is much better, there have been 20 declarations of whom 8 are youth. This is an excellent beginning to a new and exciting year.

OVERSEAS.

Overseas also there have been disappointments: in Guyana neither of the goal towns achieved assembly status, so we still have only two L.S.A.'s there, one in Georgetown and the other in Mackenzie/Wismar. We have still not achieved our overseas pioneer goals, and pioneers are urgently needed for Ghana (2), Dahomey (2), Uganda (2), Belize (1), Ceylon (1) and Trinidad (2); to those needs we should now add the Line Islands in the Pacific, a new pioneer goal just given to us by the Universal House of Justice who have called for at least one pioneer to go

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N.S.A. NEWS LETTER

OCEANIC CONFERENCE.

Waiting List: Over 220 Friends have sent in reservations for the Oceanic Conference. There is a great shortage of accommodation in Palermo and those who applied late have had to be put on a waiting list. Those Friends on the waiting list have already been informed that their reservations are not yet definitely accepted, but we are doing our utmost to fit everybody in.

Visas for Palermo: All those going to Palermo, whether with the Group or individually, should make quite sure that your passports are valid for travel to Italy (Sicily is an integral part of Italy). Holders of Persian, South African or Rhodesian passports will need visas for Italy; nationals of the British Isles, the Irish Republic, the United States, Canada or Australia will not need visas; all others should check immediately whether they need visas for Italy. Enquiries about visas should be made to

The Italian Consul General,
38 Eaton Place,
London, S.W.1.

from whom Visa Application Forms can be obtained. When you have filled in the Visa Application Form, return it to the Italian Consul General with cheque or postal order for 13/4d. if you are not remaining more than seven days in Italian territory, or £2 0s. 0d. if you are staying there longer than seven days.

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there, and our own goal country of Guyana in which area we have the challenge of establishing a new National Assembly.

Our pioneers in Trinidad, however, report two new local assemblies established there at Ridván. And we rejoiced also that four new Local Assemblies had been formed in Dahomey, one of our assistance territories, bringing the total number there to eight; and the Faith was recognised there by the Government of Dahomey in December 1967. The Mediterranean island of Rhodes, another of our assistance goals, formed its first Local Spiritual Assembly at Ridván. In West Africa, Moojan Momen is in the fifth month of his eight-month international teaching project, which is a great success; and we are very happy that plans for Iain Macdonald's three-month project to Central and East Africa are working out well.

PROCLAMATION

It has proved to be not possible for the National Assembly to make a direct presentation to Her Majesty the Queen of the Universal House of Justice's book, "The Proclamation of Bahá'u'lláh", and the House of Justice has itself taken the matter in hand through other channels. The President of Ireland, however, was unable to receive a delegation but he graciously accepted the book and expressed his thanks.

The Group travelling together from London will NOT be staying longer than seven days. You must send your passport with the completed Visa Application Form and the money, as well as the necessary photographs asked for on the form and a stamped envelope addressed to yourself large enough for your passport to be sent back to you.

Visas for Israel: All those continuing to Haifa should make quite sure that your passports are valid for travel to Israel, this means that your passport must say, "Valid for all foreign countries", or "For the Middle East" or something like that covering Israel. Holders of Persian, South African, Rhodesian and Southern Irish passports will need visas for Israel; nationals of the British Isles, the United States, Canada or Australia will not need visas; all others should check immediately whether they need visas for Israel. Enquiries about visas should be made to—

The Israeli Consulate,
2 Palace Green,
London, W.8.

from whom Visa Application Forms can be obtained. Please see that your Visa Application Form is filled in properly, each question must be answered. Question No. 19 asks for a reference, and you should put, "C/o Bahá'í World Centre, Haifa". When you have filled in the Visa Application Form, return it to the Israeli Consulate with cheque or postal order for £1 5s. 0d.; you must also send your passport, one photograph of the size specified on the application form and a stamped addressed envelope large enough for your passport to be sent back to you.

Vaccinations: Everyone will need a valid International Certificate for vaccination against smallpox. Those coming from countries outside Europe and North America may need other inoculations; please write or telephone the Italian or Israeli Consulates and ask them if you have any query about vaccinations or inoculations.

Bahá'í Credentials: Will all those Friends not travelling with the Group from London please apply to the National Spiritual Assembly, 27 Rutland Gate, London, S.W.7, for the special registration card needed for the Palermo Conference, and for an up-to-date Bahá'í International Credential if you have not got one? When you write for your registration card, please say whether or not you have got a valid green credential card, and please send a stamped addressed envelope measuring not less than 8 inches by 4 inches. Those Friends travelling with the Group should not write to the N.S.A. at this stage about registration cards or credentials, they will be asked for information a little later.

The Spirit of Pilgrimage: Because so many hundreds of Bahá'ís are expected from all over the world, there is a

great strain on available accommodation in Palermo and in Haifa. This means that we have had to accept reservations in hotels some distance away from those two cities as well as in Palermo and Haifa; Friends staying outside will be taken back and forth every day by bus. Would everyone please note that it will be very hot and humid in the Mediterranean at that time, most hotels are not air-conditioned. Especially in Palermo accommodation will be very simple. The Bahá'ís who attend the Oceanic Conference will be making a pilgrimage, remembering the deprivations of Bahá'u'lláh and His followers when they made their historic journey from Adrianople to Akka; the conditions under which they travelled (about which you can, of course, read in "God Passes By"), were far and away more difficult than anything the Conference participants will experience this summer, and we are sure that inconvenience and lack of comfort will be borne joyfully and with gratitude in thankfulness for the sacrifices of the Manifestation of God and the early believers. Everything is being done to make the best possible arrangements for the air travel, and all the details of travel and accommodation will be sent in good time to members of the Group.

Balance of Payment: in two weeks' time we shall be asking all those travelling with the Group for the balance of the money. Please make your arrangements now so that it is ready to send immediately you are asked for it.

If you need visas, please get them now so that you have no difficulty later on.

REQUEST FOR LETTERS FROM THE BELOVED GUARDIAN TO BE SENT TO THE WORLD CENTRE.

The Universal House of Justice is calling again for letters from the beloved Guardian to be copied and sent to the World Centre. All those Local Assemblies, Committees or Friends who have already sent letters to the National Assembly need not send them again, the Universal House is asking for letters which have not yet been sent. If you have such a letter or letters, please send them by registered mail or recorded delivery to the National Assembly, and clearly say whether you wish to have the original letter returned to you or whether you want the original to be sent to the World Centre and a photocopy returned to you.

NEW STAFF NEEDED FOR NATIONAL OFFICE.

After two years of faithful and effective service in the National Office, Miss Claire Copley will soon be leaving to be married, so new staff will be needed in the near future. The National Assembly would like to engage a Bahá'í, preferably some one not in a strategic Home Front goal, and invites applications for the position of clerk/typist. Please send your applications, with all relevant details, to the National Spiritual Assembly, 27 Rutland Gate, London, S.W.7.

THE GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY.

Cable sent by the Universal House of Justice to all National Conventions:

"WITH JOYFUL MEMORY OF DEDICATED SPIRIT MATURE DELIBERATIONS SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION HAIL GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY NATIONAL CONVENTIONS AS CRUCIAL MIDWAY POINT NINE YEAR PLAN APPROACHES GALVANISE BELIEVERS DIRECT ALL EFFORTS ACHIEVEMENT EVERY REMAINING GOAL AND SIMULTANEOUSLY EXTEND ACCELERATE UNIVERSAL PROCLAMATION DIVINE MESSAGE STOP WITH UTMOST LOVE CALL UPON ALL BAHÁ'IS FOR SACRIFICIAL OUTPOURING ENERGIES RESOURCES ADVANCEMENT REDEEMING ORDER BAHÁ'U'LLAH SOLE REFUGE MISDIRECTED HEEDLESS MILLIONS STOP WORLD CENTRE FAITH SCENE PROLONGED PRAYERFUL CONSULTATION WITH ASSEMBLED HANDS CAUSE GOALS PLAN INCLUDING FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTION HANDS VIEW EXTENSION FUTURE GODGIVEN DUTIES PROTECTION PROPAGATION STOP SUPPLICATING CONTINUALLY HOLY SHRINES LORD HOSTS BOUNTIFULLY REWARD DEDICATED ARDENT LOVERS COMPLETE GLORIOUS VICTORY.

22 April 1968

To All National Spiritual Assemblies.

"ANNOUNCE BAHAI WORLD NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE AMOZ GIBSON ALI NAKHJAVANI HUSHMAND FATHEAZAM IAN SEMPLE CHARLES WOLCOTT DAVID HOFMAN H BORRAH KAVELIN HUGH CHANCE DAVID RUHE."

With loving Bahá'í greetings.
UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE.

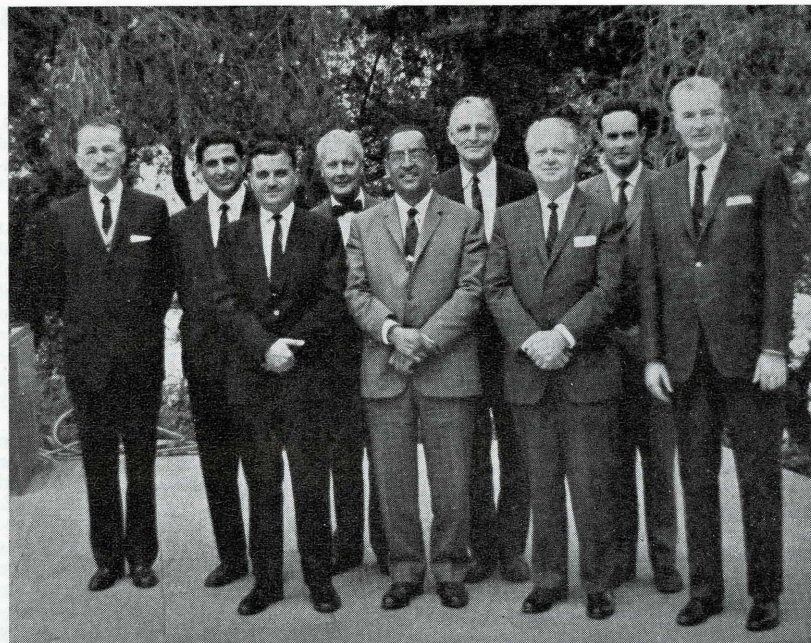
LOST.

A "Kodak Retinette" camera was lost, either at the Spring Conference at Attleborough or on the bus from there to London.

If anyone has any information which may help to recover this article, would they please contact Helene Montaz, 42 Pembroke Road, London, W.11.—thank you!!

VAHID.

Jacki James has had printed a small collection of her Bahá'í poems under the title "VAHID: A collection of Nineteen Bahá'í Poems." Copies, price 2/6d. each, can be obtained by writing direct to Jacki at 524 Shirley Road, Hall Green Birmingham 28. All proceeds to Bahá'í funds.



The newly elected Universal House of Justice

◇ FAR AWAY PLACES ◇

In response to the appeal made by the Universal House of Justice over two years ago, four youths have offered themselves for this International Travel Teaching Project all in 1968. Ian Macdonald has been asked by the Universal House of Justice to spend his 6 months in Zambia, South Africa, Swaziland and Lesotho. Peter Smith will spend a year in India or if not possible, in Africa. Mick Brooks at present serving with the U.S. Air Force in U.K. has offered himself for a year before he takes up a University Course in the United States.

Moojan Momen from Bournemouth, left London in mid-January, and soon after arriving in Bathurst in Gambia he sent a report stating that a once flourishing Community had become contracted and demoralised due to long absence of pioneers. The new Persian Pioneer Mr. Jalali who had recently settled there was trying to cope with the situation, but was somewhat handicapped because of his inability to converse in English. Moojan's reports became more and more optimistic as he and Mr. Jalali got down to the real task of reshaping the community and now in his latest report written on the 17th April he writes:

"At last the kind of report I have been waiting to give ever since I came here. One full of hope and success, rather than pessimism. Up to now, Mr. Jalali and I have been trying our utmost to put right all the things that have been wrong here, and to stop the backward slide of the Faith. Everything

is still not quite right, but at least the backward slide has been halted and Gambia is showing a glimmering of its true potential. The Faith is once again moving forward and gathering momentum. Already every day we are getting a minimum of five or six enquiries and in the last month have had some twenty declarations.

We are holding our breaths to see how many L.S.A.'s will be formed this Ridván. Three are definitely going to be formed, another three are touch and go.

We have one village, right the other end of the country, called Nibrass. With a great deal of care and patience, the whole village will soon become Bahá'ís. Nibrass, I understand, in Arabic means lantern. Then truly Nibrass will become a lantern to the whole of West Africa. Many villages 'up river' and away from the road, have not yet been smeared by western civilisation. They are still in a condition to recognise the truth when they see it.

In a previous report dealing with their contacts with the authorities for the incorporation of our L.S.A. and recognition of Bahá'í marriages, it was said to Moojan that if the Bahá'ís are prepared to present their laws pertaining to marriage, divorce, holy days, etc., these laws will be presented in the form of a Bill to parliament to be approved as laws governing the Bahá'í Community in the Gambia.

OVERSEAS GOALS COMMITTEE.

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITIES

BRIGHTON.

Besides all the usual meetings associated with Ridván and Naw-Rúz, additional attempts have been made by the Brighton friends to bring the Bahá'í Faith to the notice of the public in this important year of Proclamation.

Our Secretary, Mary Kouchehzadeh —has made quite a name for herself with the local Women's Institutes (and other Social Clubs) by means of her lectures on Persia detailing its history, customs, handicrafts etc. During the course of her talk, it is not unusual for the Bahá'í Faith to be mentioned which often arouses further questions on this subject. In this manner, several contacts have been established.

At very short notice, a public meeting was organised to cover a short visit by that most wonderful Bahá'í Mr. Samandari. We managed to introduce quite a few non-Bahá'ís and we were pleased to see that these included Mr. and Mrs. Busby, the local founders of an organisation called the Spiritual Unity of Nations which, by means of a quarterly periodical, and organising of meetings, is attempting to promote a growth of unity between all types of organisations with a spiritual foundation. Mr. Samandari amazed us all with his energy and the interesting talk at the close of which he most satisfactorily answered some of the questions put to him by our non-Bahá'í friends.

Attempts are being made to renew the teaching of the Faith in the Worthing area, and our first summer meeting was held late in April. Attendance was poor, but we all feel confident that with the help of our prayers, we will ultimately make some progress by the end of the summer. Investigations are also being made into the possibility of establishing a meeting in some of the other Sussex Towns.

Three of our dedicated Persian Bahá'ís go forth each Monday into the Sussex country taking the first bus out after their arrival at the bus station. They then alight at any town on the route that seems to appeal to their hearts and relying on their earlier prayers try to introduce the Faith to at least one person. So far, on all the trips made, they have succeeded in making contacts and the initial message has been most favourably received by quite a few people in this rather off-beat endeavour made as a contribution towards the Proclamation effort.

At the Brighton Grammar School, Bahá'í prayers have been requested and read to the School Assembly. At this particular school, there are already two Bahá'ís attending and quite a few of the boys have been introduced to the Faith.

NORTHAMPTON.

(Report sent to the A.A.T.C. by Pamela Mizon and Gitty Momen).

We enjoyed our stay in Northampton and occupied our time visiting Bahá'ís and trying to make contacts, one way or

another. We found the Bahá'ís most hospitable and we enjoyed meeting them. We included in our visits Mr. and Mrs. Jones who live outside Northampton and haven't seen Bahá'ís in their village for some time.

We found the public library a great help in finding accommodation and providing us with information on local organisations. We stayed for part of the time at a boarding-house and also stayed at a local vicarage! The former turned out to be more successful, as the vicarage did not provide us with as many opportunities as we had originally hoped.

By various methods, ranging from visiting art galleries, museums, coffee bars and bookshops, to organised religious meetings, we were able to talk with a number of people in Northampton. One meeting of particular value was at the Friends' Meeting House, where we went to what was supposedly a Theosophical Society meeting. Actually we had made a mistake and the meeting was that of another association. As luck would have it the two speakers expected did not turn up. By chance a man found out we were Bahá'ís, and introduced us to the ten people present, and we were asked to speak on the Faith. So for over an hour we talked and answered questions on the Faith. Much interest was aroused, Pamphlets were taken by some, and two people asked us to visit them in their homes for further discussion.

We should like to thank the A.A.T.C. for arranging this visit which has proved of invaluable experience for ourselves.

ORKNEY.

During the month of March three Bahá'ís arrived in Orkney for a three month's period to help the resident pioneers and open new fields for teaching the Faith. These friends will be followed by others at intervals during the year.

On 30th March Orkney's Bahá'í Centre was opened with a slide show of Switzerland given by Ada Lee from Lytham-St-Annes, which was greatly enjoyed by the Bahá'ís and their friends.

The following weekend, April 6/7, a weekend school was held which exceeded everyone's expectations and was a wonderful success due to the number of contacts who attended and the support of friends from Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Inverness and Newcastle, who, despite snow and high winds which for almost a week had grounded planes, blocked roads and confined ships to harbour, managed to arrive as odd planes and boats got through. Altogether, including Bahá'ís, contacts and children, there were 33 people present during the weekend.

The theme of the school was the "Unity of Religions" which was carried through in talks, slides and discussions. The week-end ended with a very successful public talk, given by Betty

Shepherd from Inverness, to a room packed to capacity with Bahá'ís and their friends. As a result of this public meeting three contacts came to a meeting the following day, bought books, and expressed much happiness and agreement with our beloved Faith.

The climax of the school came on Sunday afternoon with the declaration of David Craske from Newcastle. Although David had to return to Newcastle to complete his studies, he greatly blessed our islands by his declaration.

Altogether this was a wonderful weekend school, full of love, interest and excitement. Another school is being planned for early autumn and it is hoped that as many friends as possible will give their support, as the Orcadians were much impressed that Bahá'ís had come from such distances to be with their fellow-Bahá'ís.

PETERBOROUGH.

Report on "Indian Evening" held on Friday, 1st March, 1968.

This social evening, which was held at the Bahá'í Centre, was arranged in conjunction with the International Club, in aid of Human Rights Year. And there is little doubt that it was an unqualified success. Nearly 60 people attended, including the Rev. Richard Paten, Chairman of the Peterborough Human Rights Year Committee, the Secretary of U.N.A., most of the members of the U.N.A. Youth Group, members of OXFAM, and the founder of the Commonwealth Club in Peterborough. The nations represented included: Britain, West Indies, Poland, Cyprus, Kenya, Uganda; Thailand, as well as India.

Reporters from all three local newspapers were present with photographers, and all three papers subsequently carried news of the event with photographs. One of the papers even called it the international event of the year in Peterborough! Incidentally, over £9 was raised for the H.R.Y. Committee.

It is hoped that we will be able to have a few more such evenings, with the accent on different countries, in aid of some good cause.

STRETFORD.

Last autumn it was decided to offer two young trees to the town to mark the Proclamation Period. The Corporation decided to site them in a recently completed block of Old People's flats, appropriately named 'Victoria Court'. As the ground was not ready in the autumn, the planting took place on March 16th.

The Mayor, Councillor Mrs. Anne Kirkbright attended and accepted the trees on behalf of the Corporation from George Bowers. After the planting a prayer was read, and George said a few words about the Faith and the occasion of the gift, in particular mentioning the Tablet to Queen Victoria. The Mayor

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expressed appreciation and showed some interest.

The occasion was attended by Bahá'ís from Eccles, Swinton, Manchester, Southport and Liverpool. The local press was represented and an excellent photograph, as well as an article, appeared in the Stretford Journal. A handsome plaque, a gift from one of the friends, stands in a prominent position on the corner of two well-frequented roads, set in concrete by special order of the Mayor. This, we hope, will be a silent witness for many years to come.

SUTTON COLDFIELD.

Fifty-three persons, including fifteen non-Bahá'ís, and friends from as far away as Chile, Holland, London, Leicester, Kidderminster and Warwick, attended a public meeting on the theme of Human Rights on April 7th.

Mr. Parkinson spoke on the work of the National Council for Civil Liberties (of which he is Chairman of the Midland Group) with special emphasis on the immigration problem, gypsies and tinkers, young servicemen and women. He praised the Bahá'í booklet on Human Rights saying that it contained "the best summary of the position of women in the world" that he had ever seen. Philip Hainsworth followed with a talk on the Bahá'í attitude to these problems, emphasising the need to awake a spiritual response in the human heart to God and to recognise the rights of each other. Many questions were asked and the meeting ended with the friendly clatter of crockery as tea and cakes were happily consumed.

Quotations, regularly inserted in the local newspaper since Christmas, arouse enquiries from several people including students at Saltley College, Birmingham who asked the L.S.A. to provide a speaker for a lunch-time talk to the Students' Christian Union. On May 8th Ehsan Amini spoke to a small but interested group of students, leaving most of the time free for the plentiful flow of questions and discussion—so engrossed were they that all arrived late for their afternoon lectures.!

SWINTON.

Friends from Newcastle upon Tyne, Halifax, Burnley, Heaton Chapel, Manchester, Eccles, Stretford, Southport, Nottingham and Liverpool joined with the Swinton friends in a week-end school held on Saturday and Sunday, 18th and 19th May.

The theme of the school was 'The Divine Art of Living' and Ernest Gregory gave a very enlightening talk on this subject. On Saturday evening the Minister of the Bank Street Unitarian Chapel, Boldon and Mr. Bob Hallam discussed "Peace and how this can be achieved". Amy Hargreaves added a humorous note to the school as well as giving a stimulating talk on 'Words for the World'. A panel of youth, including a young West African agnostic, spoke about 'Young people's views on Religion.'

It was a very happy occasion, with interesting discussions and varying points of view, but the ultimate conclusion was that everything came back to the individual and his obligation to set an example of living according to the Divine Laws.

The Bahá'ís of Swinton were invited to take part in a Service of All Faiths organised by the Bank Street Unitarian Chapel, Bolton on Sunday, 16th June at 3.0 p.m. This is the third of these Services and we hope as many Bahá'í friends as possible will support this. It was at this Chapel some weeks ago that Dr. Ernest Miller was invited to take the Pulpit at the Sunday Evening Service and it was publicized on the notice board of the Chapel as Doctor Ernest Miller M.D. speaking on the Bahá'í Faith.

WOKINGHAM R.D.

The Bahá'ís of Wokingham R.D. held two important meetings on Friday and Saturday, 10th/11th May. The first was an evening meeting at Bulmershe College, which was specifically arranged so that we could invite tutors. Every lecturer had an invitation and pamphlet including the Principal and Vice-Principal who were personally presented with the invitation. Farhang Jahanpur, Meherangiz Munsiff and Riaz Khadem each gave short talks on important aspects of the Bahá'í Faith. There was little response from the staff although the Head of the Religious Education department did come despite the fact that he was also chairing a conference that evening in another part of the building.

On the next day the same speakers gave a series of lectures on "The age of analysis and the Bahá'í Faith."

The Principal and Vice-Principal were among those present for the morning lecture given by Farhang on "The nature of Man; man collectively."

We were blessed with two declarations

IRISH TEACHING COMMITTEE

During the last month we have had a visit from the Chairman of the Canadian N.S.A. Mr. James Bond, and Miss Charlotte Lightfoot, assistant Secretary to the N.S.A. of America, both visiting Ireland on their way home from Haifa. Dublin had the pleasure of welcoming Miss Lightfoot to the Nineteen Day Feast, where she and Adib shared the task of telling the community something of their experiences at the memorable time of the election of the Universal House of Justice. Mr. James Bond, arriving on the twelfth Day of Ridván, saw during the day some of the beauties of Ireland at Enniskerry, and the site of the Temple land, and joined the friends who gathered in Dun Laoghaire in the evening, where he spoke to them of the qualities of patience needed to persevere in pioneering and teaching the Cause in many places.

Northern Ireland has had the joy and excitement of a wedding, which will be reported from Belfast, and Southern Ireland has had a declaration—in Dublin. We welcome to the Irish Bahá'í community Mrs. May Vine, who has been studying the Faith for eighteen months, and on May 17th consulted with the Dublin L.S.A. and made her declaration.

Reports have been received about public meetings in Castlereagh and Bangor, with speakers from southern Ireland and an excellent report from Larne R.D. shows sustained activity in this small group.

There is a constant flow of visitors to Cork and Limerick, and the pioneers there attended a 'Teach In' in Dublin which was held to receive and consult upon the many ideas on teaching in the Dublin Area.

Dublin is again holding public meetings, and although there can be no press advertisement, the community has been encouraged by the support given to the first two meetings, through personal invitations, and Bahá'ís bringing their friends to the meetings.

The first Public meeting in Derry was held just over a month ago, the I.T.C. has encouraged the pioneers there to hold public meetings regularly, and is stimulating the friends from all areas to concentrate on these meetings, find ways and means of attending them, to pray for them, and to inspire the friends in Derry to persevere without thought of numbers.

Our northern goal city of Craigavon still remains unopened.

Draw Nigh Unto Baha'u'llah.

The All-Merciful hath conferred upon man the faculty of vision, and endowed him with the power of hearing. Some have described him as "The lesser world", when in reality, he should be regarded as the "greater world". The potentialities inherent in the station of man the full measure of his destiny on earth, the innate excellence of his reality, must all be manifested in this promised Day of God.

Bahá'u'lláh.

BAHA'I PUBLISHING TRUST

We are happy to announce that we found a new home for our books last month when our trade counter closed down. We are deeply grateful to the Leicester Assembly for providing excellent facilities in their centre for our books and for their offer to act as our distributors.

In order to ease their burden would you be sure to send all orders, payments, queries and correspondence to our

office at 2 South Street, Oakham, Rutland.

We are also very glad to be able to tell you that we incurred no financial loss when C. & A., our former distributors, closed down.

During the holiday season most people have more time for reading. We therefore look forward to receiving your orders which will be dispatched without delay.

— ALCOHOL — THE BAHÁ'Í ATTITUDE

The National Assembly asks everyone to read carefully the following letter from the Universal House of Justice which sets out clearly the Baha'i attitude towards the serving of alcohol. This direct guidance will be very helpful to us all.

8 February 1968

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the British Isles.

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

In reply to your letter of January 12th about serving alcoholic drinks, we share with you the following texts from letters written on this subject:

1. "Institutions that are entirely managed by Bahá'ís, are for reasons that are only too obvious, under the obligation of enforcing all the laws and ordinances of the Faith, especially those whose observance constitutes a matter of conscience. There is no reason, no justification whatsoever, that they should act otherwise..." (From the Guardian in reply to a specific question about serving alcohol).

2. "For the time being the friends should consider this as a matter of conscience and should avoid either engaging in the sale of liquor or in employment involving the sale of liquor inasmuch as such actions are in violation of the spirit of the prohibitions in Bahá'í law." (From a letter of the Universal House of Justice in reply to a query whether a Bahá'í may own an establishment in which alcoholic liquors are sold, and also whether a Bahá'í may work in bars or taverns).

3. "Bahá'ís should not serve alcoholic drinks at parties which they sponsor." (From a letter of the Universal House of Justice).

From the above quotations it is clear that on all occasions officially sponsored by Bahá'í Institutions or where the host is acting as a representative of the Cause, alcohol should not be served. In private homes or in the course of business or professional activity it is left to the conscience of Bahá'ís themselves whether they serve alcoholic drinks to non-Bahá'ís but the obligation is very strong to observe the prohibition enjoined by Bahá'u'lláh.

We trust this clarifies the matter for you.

GREETINGS FROM THE PACIFIC. GREETINGS FRIENDS GATHERED AT CONVENTION.

OWEN NOW SETTLED POST NEW CALEDONIA. SEVEN DECLARATIONS SINCE RIDVAN. JEANETTE AND SARAH OBLIGED REMAIN NEW ZEALAND TILL END OF 1969. VISITING OWEN IN TWO MONTHS TIME XMAS 1968. PRAYING GOALS ACHIEVED.

WRITTEN TO MOTHER COUNTRY COMMONWEALTH SHINING EXAMPLE TO BAHÁ'Í WORLD.
WARM BAHÁ'Í LOVE,—

JEANETTE AND OWEN BATTRICK.

N.T.T.C. REPORT

| COUNTY | GOAL TOWN | NUMBER OF BELIEVERS. | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Buckinghamshire | Aylesbury | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Somerset | Bath | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Bedfordshire | Bedford | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Cumberland | Carlisle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Essex | Chelmsford | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Derbyshire | Derby | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Durham County | Durham | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Herefordshire | Hereford | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Suffolk | Ipswich | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Westmorland | Kendal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Worcestershire | Kidderminster | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lincolnshire | Lincoln | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rutland | Oakham | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Dorset | Poole | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Staffordshire | Stafford | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Cornwall | St. Austell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Shropshire | Shrewsbury | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Caernarvon | Bangor | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Islands | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Isle of Man | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Jersey | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Guernsey | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Isle of Wight | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

NEWS OF THE GOAL TOWNS AND ISLANDS.

Bath has with other towns received a visit from Mrs. Freda Butler of New Zealand. **Bedford** sadly was not able to form their Assembly at Ridván, but the committee are sure they will be able to achieve this very soon.

Carlisle reported the joy they felt at having three youth to spend two weeks in the town, whilst on a Youth Project.

Chelmsford is now re-opened with the arrival of pioneers May and Peter Moore, and the Committee plans to hold its meeting on June 29th/30th in this goal town.

Kendal held its first public meeting on 20th April, which was a great success and well attended both by Bahá'ís and contacts.

Kidderminster. The Committee met in this town in May and had the pleasure of a consultation with the pioneers. Regular visits are to be made to Kidderminster from the Bahá'ís of Warwick, Sutton Coldfield and Stafford.

Lincoln. Pioneer Jack Crook has now opened a Snack bar in the park in this town, so no doubt if any friends are passing that way, they will wish to visit the park and Jack! Brigitte Ferraby hopes to pioneer to this town later in the year.

Poole is suffering the loss of the second pioneer to pass to the Abhá Kingdom in this goal town with the death of stalwart soldier, Aileen Beale soon after Ridván. Two Bahá'í friends, newly welcomed to the Faith in Christchurch are moving into Poole during the summer.

Bangor. A public meeting was held in this goal town on 5th May, which was supported by Bahá'ís from Liverpool, Chester, Formby and Dyffryn Ardudwy. A contact has offered his home for regular fireside meetings, which will be "manned" by outside friends, since there are no resident Bahá'ís.

Islands.

Isle of Wight. This island receives a regular stream of visitors, and one friend has offered to spend her summer holiday there.

Isle of Man. This island is now re-opened to the Faith but only for a short time as Dr. Mali who has gone there to work has to leave again in August.

Assembly Assistance.

It is with great joy that the committee can share the news that three new Assemblies have stepped into the "assistance field", namely the Spiritual Assemblies of Wokingham, Liverpool and Blackpool.

In each case the committee received a request to be allowed to become an assisting Assembly. The Spiritual Assembly of Wokingham wrote asking that they be allowed to assist the goal town of Aylesbury. Already the committee have received a plan of working this town, now without pioneers, and the Wokingham friends are arranging that two of their numbers will definitely pioneer to Aylesbury. News has also been received that Anne and Tony McCarthy are trying to move there.

The Spiritual Assembly of Liverpool wrote asking to be allowed to be assisting Assembly to the Goal town of Bangor, and from the above report it will be seen has already held a public meeting and made plans for follow-up teaching.

The Spiritual Assembly of Blackpool wrote asking that they become assisting Assembly to the goal town of Kendal. This is the latest offer received by this committee and the National Assembly.

The committee would like to record its pleasure at these offers, and we are confident that the confirmations in the teaching work in the "mother" towns will be increased a thousand-fold by the willingness of these friends to lend support to winning the goals of the 9 Year Plan, in such a joyous and enthusiastic manner!

Any offers of help no matter how small will be welcomed and should be sent to the secretary, Mrs. Betty Goode, 8 Knowle Road, Stafford. Tel. Stafford 62157.

National Youth Committee

1. The University Week Course.

A "University Week" course was organized by the N.Y.C. for extensive study of the religious teachings, during the period of April 5th to 11th. It provided the opportunity for Bahá'í youth to think deeply into the implications behind such topics as the manifestations of God, the great religions of the world, the Bahá'í Dispensation, and the new race of men. It was a unique opportunity for individual research and thought within a controlled programme. The small group attending was made to feel the rigorous demands of coherency as well as the excitement of exploring the writings of Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá and Shoghi Effendi. Afternoons were devoted to individual research on a chosen topic, for discussion in the evening.

The first of the morning talks was given by Dick Backwell. He spoke at great length and with much reference to 'Abdu'l-Bahá on the extent of man's knowledge and understanding of God within the context of man's ever-advancing perfection. Abbas Afnan joined the group on the fourth day and gave a very detailed talk on numerous references to Biblical terminology and prophecies. And Farhang Jahanpur, who was our organiser and chairman throughout the week, gave a very comprehensive summary of the Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh, beginning with the references made to Him by the Báb. Paul Adams also came during the week and introduced the spiritually exhausted inmates of the Brache Centre to a further sea of stimulating bewilderment, under the ensign of logic, in a very intensive discussion which evaluated the salient principles fundamental to the Faith. Daug Martin, the secretary of the Canadian N.S.A. who was on his way to Haifa for the election of the Universal House of Justice gave a vision of the required degree of moderation necessary to using both intellectual and spiritual arguments.

The evening courses ranged widely from an expansive elucidation on the inner realities of Bahá'í writings to a study of the station of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and a commentary on the Book of Certitude, and also further comment and discussion on the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh that we so glibly talk about and very rarely think of.

The school went one step further from the youth summer and winter schools in that its sole purpose was to probe into the words of Bahá'u'lláh rather than merely repeating them.

For those who participated and approached the work with genuine zeal and excitement, the school was the most stimulating and satisfying experience; it provided them an even greater thirst to delve into the mysterious depths of this Cause. It may not be completely irrelevant to see the success of this school as a hopeful sign of growing maturity among the youth, for

although the attendance was small, and the awareness of inadequacy was great, it was a step to that future concept of a Bahá'í University in which the ocean of Bahá'í writings will be both the cause and goal of intensive study.

2. The Spring Conference.

This youth week-end conference, held in Attleborough, Norfolk from April 12th to 15th was indeed very inspiring and successful. Over sixty people took part in it and there was one youth declaration.

The conference was opened by a member of the N.S.A. on Friday. The real work started the next morning at 7.00 a.m. as the bell rang for the physical fitness session. Most of the people took part, for the first morning anyway.

There were two talks each morning. These were given by Bahá'í youth who made a real good job of them. The talks were:

1. The historical survey of the expansion of the Bahá'í Faith by Ronald Taherzadeh.
2. Lives of some of the heroes of the Faith by Shohreh Monajem.
3. The Laws of Bahá'u'lláh by Jyoti Munsiff.
4. Obedience to the Covenant by Bahiyyeh Nakhjavani.
5. The principles of the Bahá'í Faith by Terry Luke.
6. The Administrative Order by Brigitte Ferraby.

There were work-shops in which the participants discussed some of the following topics and some good points were raised.

1. Method of presentation of the Faith and the technique of public speaking.
2. Method of presentation of the Faith and the technique of leading group discussions.
3. Committee procedure—what can local youth committees do?
4. Prayer, meditation and action.
5. Movement of the youth.

There were also two sessions for C.D.C. questionnaires titled "learning about the Bahá'í Community", and everyone certainly did learn a lot about the Bahá'í way of life, laws and administration.

In a special session the Spring and Summer projects were discussed. A report from the people who had taken part in the Carlisle teaching project was heard. Their trip had been successful and certainly worthwhile. Prayers for the success of the other Spring teaching project were said, and 19 people offered to take part in the summer projects.

On the whole it was a very successful and happy conference. Everyone enjoyed themselves greatly, from the talks and workshops on the one hand to the food and the musical evening organised on Sunday night on the other. There was certainly no shortage of physical and spiritual food and exercise!

VISITORS AND TRAVELLING TEACHERS

Last year the Universal House of Justice in its Ridván message called for 'a constant stream of visiting teachers . . . as an essential part of the intensified teaching effort in the Proclamation period.

Quite a number of the friends have responded to the appeal made at Teaching Conference, and have arisen and gone, either on organised circuits or by private arrangement with different communities. Reports have come back to us which confirm the inspiring and re-vitalising effect of these visits. It is a wonderful start, but it is not enough. We need more visitors, and then still more!

We feel that many of the friends may be holding back because they think they are no good at teaching; that to be a 'travel teacher' one must be also a public speaker. Nothing could be further from the truth. To illustrate what we mean we would like to define three distinct categories of Bahá'í teacher:

- (i) Those who are not confident speakers but who are willing to visit other Bahá'ís, like members of the family, for a chat over a cup of tea.
- (ii) Those who can speak or lead discussions at firesides.
- (iii) Those who can speak at public meetings.

Very many of us belong to the first category, and this is perhaps the most important one of all, so it is especially to them we want to appeal. Many communities seldom see a new Bahá'í face and many lonely pioneers never see another Bahá'í at all. We cannot emphasise too strongly the joy and inspiration that can flow from such visits. Both guest and host are strengthened and encouraged, and love and friendship are spread abroad.

The A.A.T.C. and N.T.T.C. are from now on working together on all that concerns travel teaching. The 'package tours', introduced by the N.T.T.C. in the last issue of the Journal are now almost complete, and are to be shared between the two committees. The first copies of these tours will shortly be sent out to the whole community. Andrew Gash has agreed to act as organiser and co-ordinator for the two committees, but for the time being all enquiries should be sent either to: Mrs. Betty Goode, 8 Knowle Road, Stafford, or Mrs. Jane Harding, 64 Park Road, Stretford, Manchester.

So we appeal once again, for any Bahá'í who can walk and hold a teacup to join in this great movement. Arise and visit the 'family', so that the 'stream of visiting teachers' may become a mighty river, carrying all before it!

ASSEMBLY ASSISTANCE AND NEW TERRITORIES TEACHING COMMITTEES.

A.A.T.C. REPORT

TEACHER TRAINING WEEKEND SCHOOL.

October 5th-6th 1968.

Dr. Johnson House, Room 44, Colmore Circus, Birmingham.

The Assembly Assistance Teaching Committee is very anxious that the pace of circuit teaching be increased, and for this reason a weekend school has been arranged for October 5th-6th. The main purpose is to offer to those Bahá'ís who would like to travel-teach, but who feel in some way inadequate, a course of instruction and guidance which it is hoped will inspire more people to offer themselves for this worthwhile service.

At the same time, the lectures will contain material which will be of interest to experienced teachers, and half the available time will be used for audience participation. Details will be given in the next issue of the Bahá'í Journal, but it is expected that lectures will include instruction and guidance on the preparation of different types of lecture and how to answer questions; on the qualities of a Bahá'í teacher; preparation for leading discussion groups how to teach the history of the Faith, the Covenant and the Spirit of the Bahá'í Administrative Order.

Every Bahá'í can be a teacher—Bahá'u'lláh has said: "God hath prescribed unto every one the duty of teaching His Cause . . . Say, Teach ye the Cause of God, O people of Bahá, for God hath prescribed unto every one the duty of proclaiming His Message, and regardeth it as the most meritorious of all deeds." We are all unaware of the teaching potential which lies within us once we stand up to teach the Cause of God, however limited our experience, however deficient our education, we become channels for the Message of Bahá'u'lláh.

As you will appreciate, this will be a very concentrated course and it is intended to teach Bahá'ís. It may be, however, that there are a few very close contacts for whom attendance at such a

gathering might provide a turning point. For this reason the committee feels that, so long as the friends exercise great discretion, such very close contacts might be brought to the school if they really wish to attend.

It is hoped that many Bahá'ís, both experienced teachers and those who would like to travel-teach, will be able to attend the school, which will be chaired by Philip Hainsworth. The room will be open from 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 5th for the convenience of those attending from long distances.

In order to give the committee an indication of the number likely to attend, it would be of great assistance if you could inform Mrs. Lois Hainsworth, Sharaf. Church Road, Horsforth near Leeds, whether you may be attending.

TEACHING CONFERENCE, JANUARY 4/5, 1969.

Teaching Conference for 1969 will be held in the Crescent Hotel, North Promenade, Blackpool, on January 4/5.

By arrangement with the management, a large conference room will be made available for our teaching conference and no charge at all will be made for it so long as FIFTY BAHÁ'ÍS stay at the Hotel. The charge for bed and breakfast is 37/6; if fifty Bahá'ís stay at the hotel a 15% discount will be given to them, bringing down the charge to 32/-.

The committee hopes that at least fifty friends will be in a position to stay at the hotel—not only will it be very convenient for them personally, but they will be able to feel that they are also making a contribution. When making your reservation, and please, if at all possible, do so in good time, mention "Bahá'í Conference" in your letter so that the management will know that your name is to be taken as one of the fifty people whose residence will count towards the cancellation of any charge for the conference room.

IRISH SUMMER SCHOOL

The only British Summer School to be held this year will be in Monkstown, Co. Dublin, from 13th to 27th July. Ireland is a beautiful and hospitable country and we hope that many friends from the British Isles will come and help make this an exciting and successful school.

Programmes and booking forms will be sent shortly, but friends may book now by applying to the Registrar, Miss Lesley Gibson, 6 Alphonsus Terrace, Quin Street, Limerick, Ireland.

Rates are as follows:
(deposit £1 per person).

Adults.

Weekly £9.
Daily £1 10s. 0d.

Youth (10-14 years)—

Weekly £7 10s. 0d.
Daily £1 1s. 0d.

Children under 10

Weekly £5 5s. 0d.
Daily 15/-.

There is room for 90 people; several have already booked.

Friends from Britain are asked to note that Ireland is a tourist country and sea and air transport will be heavily booked, so bookings should be made with local travel agents as soon as possible.

SUMMER SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

GAMBIA.

Pen friends required.

We have just heard from Moojan Momen, our youth travelling teacher in Gambia that this Ridván they have managed to form 5 L.S.A.'s, 5 groups, and 6 Centres compared to 1 L.S.A. and 2 Centres last year.

He also urgently calls for Bahá'í youth in this country to correspond regularly with a group of school pupils who have become Bahá'ís through their Teacher. This teacher is now being transferred and there will be no one in this village to give them support as their parents are non-Bahá'ís. The youth aged 15-17 are quite enthusiastic about the idea so volunteers who are willing to maintain regular correspondence should send their name and address immediately to K. Kouchekezadeh, 3, Wentworth Close, Watford, Herts.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO HER MAJESTY.

On April 21st, the Queen's personal birthday, the following telegram was sent:

"H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH, BUCKINGHAM PALACE

THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS ON BEHALF OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE BRITISH ISLES AND THE COMMONWEALTH OFFERS TO YOUR MAJESTY LOYAL AND JOYOUS GREETINGS ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY"

to which the following reply was received:

"SECRETARY NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS 27 RUTLAND GATE, SW7 THE QUEEN SINCERELY THANKS THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS FOR THE KIND MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS SENT ON BEHALF OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE BRITISH ISLES AND COMMONWEALTH ON THE OCCASION OF HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY PRIVATE SECRETARY."

MANCHESTER.

Accommodation Available.

Small single bed-sitting room available at Manchester Bahá'í Centre. Rent and heating free in return for looking after the Centre. Please apply to Local Spiritual Assembly, 360 Wilmslow Road, Manchester, 14.

DEADLINE:—

Material for the next issue of the Journal to be in by 29th July 1968. to—

Mr. J. Coates, Editor,
45 Overfield Road,
Fawdon,
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 3AJ