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INSTITUTION OF THE HANDS OF THE CAUSE

Letters from Universal House of Justice—

24th June, 1968.

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

We are enclosing a message addressed to the Bahá'ís of the world outlining the decisions of the Universal House of Justice arrived at in consultation with the Hands of the Cause of God in implementation of the goal of the Nine Year Plan concerning the development of the Institution of the Hands of the Cause of God, with a view to the extension into the future of its appointed functions of protection and propagation.

The relationship of Continental Boards of Counsellors to National Spiritual Assemblies will follow the pattern of the relationship between the Hands of the Cause and National Spiritual Assemblies, outlined by the beloved Guardian in various communications. Within the framework of these, and of general instructions given to them by the Universal House of Justice, the Boards of Counsellors will decide the manner in which they will collaborate and consult with National Spiritual Assemblies in their areas. You will readily recognise the importance of this close collaboration, which is indeed vital to the future progress of the Cause.

Although henceforth the Hands of the Cause will be operating increasingly on an intercontinental level and in direct relationship with the Universal House of Justice, they will, in addition to carrying out special missions on its behalf, continue to exercise their prerogative and obligation of consulting with National Spiritual Assemblies on any subject which, in their view, affects the interests of the Cause. National Spiritual Assemblies should at all times take advantage of the presence of Hands of the Cause in their areas to seek their views on all fundamental matters, particularly in the areas of protection and propagation.

It is our hope and prayer that all National Spiritual Assemblies may lend full support to the labours and services of these newly-appointed workers in the Divine Vineyard, and derive additional strength and fresh inspiration from the efforts they will exert in the discharge of their highly-challenging and sacred responsibilities.

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

24th June, 1968.

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

The majestic unfoldment of Bahá'u'lláh's world-redeeming administrative system has been marked by the successive establishment of the various institutions and agencies which constitute the framework of that divinely-created Order. Thus, more than a quarter-of-a-century after the emergence of the first National Spiritual Assemblies of the Bahá'í world the Institution of the Hands of the Cause of God was formally established, with the appointment by the beloved Guardian, in conformity with the provisions of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Will and Testament, of the first contingent of these high-ranking officers of the Faith. Following the passing of the Guardian of the Cause of God, it fell to the House of Justice to devise a way, within the Administrative Order, of developing "the Institution of the Hands of the Cause with a view to extension into the future of its appointed functions of protection and propagation," and this was made a goal of the Nine Year Plan. Much thought and study has been given to the question over the past four years, and the texts have been collected and reviewed. During the last two months, this goal, as announced in our cable to the National Conventions, has been the object of prolonged and prayerful consultation between the Universal House of Justice and the Hands of the Cause of God. All this made evident the framework within which this goal was to be achieved, namely:

The Universal House of Justice sees no way in which additional Hands of the Cause of God can be appointed.

The absence of the Guardian of the Faith brought about an entirely new relationship between the Universal House of Justice and the Hands of the Cause and called for the progressive unfoldment by the Universal House of Justice of the manner in which the Hands of the Cause would carry out their divinely-conferred functions of protection and propagation.

Whatever new development or institution is initiated should come

into operation as soon as possible in order to reinforce and supplement the work of the Hands of the Cause while at the same time taking full advantage of the opportunity of having the Hands themselves assist in launching and guiding the new procedures.

Any such institution must grow and operate in harmony with the principles governing the functioning of the Institution of the Hands of the Cause of God.

In the light of these considerations the Universal House of Justice decided, as announced in its recent cable, to establish Continental Boards of Counsellors for the protection and propagation of the Faith. Their duties will include directing the Auxiliary Boards in their respective areas, consulting and collaborating with National Spiritual Assemblies, and keeping the Hands of the Cause and the Universal House of Justice informed concerning the conditions of the Cause in their areas.

Initially eleven Boards of Counsellors have been appointed, one for each of the following areas: Northwestern Africa, Central and East Africa, Southern Africa, North America, Central America, South America, Western Asia, Southeastern Asia, Northeastern Asia, Australasia and Europe.

The members of these Boards of Counsellors will serve for a term, or terms, the length of which will be determined and announced at a later date, and while serving in this capacity, will not be eligible for membership on national or local administrative bodies. One member of each Continental Board of Counsellors has been designated as Trustee of the Continental Fund for its area.

The Auxiliary Boards for Protection and Propagation will henceforth report to the Continental Boards of Counsellors who will appoint or replace members of the Auxiliary Boards as circumstances may require. Such appointments and replacements as may be necessary in the initial stages will take place after consultation with the Hand or Hands previously assigned to the continent or zone.

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The Hands of the Cause of God have the prerogative and obligation to consult with the Continental Boards of Counsellors and National Spiritual Assemblies on any subject which, in their view, affects the interests of the Cause. The Hands residing in the Holy Land will act as liaison between the Universal House of Justice and the Continental Boards of Counsellors, and will also assist the Universal House of Justice in setting up, at a propitious time, an international teaching centre in the Holy Land, as anticipated in the Guardian's writings.

The Hands of the Cause of God are one of the most precious assets the Bahá'í world possesses. Released from administration of the Auxiliary Boards, they will be able to concentrate their energies on the more primary responsibilities of general protection and propagation, "preservation of the spiritual health of the Bahá'í communities" and "the vitality of the faith" of the Bahá'ís throughout the world. The House of Justice will call upon them to undertake special missions on its behalf, to represent it on both Bahá'í and other occasions and to keep it informed of the welfare of the Cause. While the Hands of the Cause will, naturally, have special concern for the affairs of the Cause in the areas in which they reside, they will operate increasingly on an intercontinental level, a factor which will lend tremendous impetus to the diffusion throughout the Bahá'í world of the spiritual inspiration channelled through them—the Chief Stewards of Bahá'u'lláh's embryonic World Commonwealth.

With joyful hearts we proclaim this further unfolding of the Administrative Order of Bahá'u'lláh and join our prayers to those of the friends throughout the East and the West that Bahá'u'lláh may continue to shower his confirmations upon the efforts of His servants in the safeguarding and promotion of His Faith.

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

FIRESIDES.

Liverpool. Various Bahá'ís in turn by arrangement Ring 051 STO 9809.

Torquay. Bahá'í Centre, Rear of 8 Lucius Street, Torquay, Fridays, 7.30 p.m.

Draw Nigh unto Bahá'u'lláh

Time and again have We admonished Our beloved ones to avoid, nay to flee from, anything whatsoever from which the odour of mischief can be detected. The world is in great turmoil, and the minds of its people are in a state of utter confusion. We entreat the Almighty that He may graciously illuminate them with the glory of His justice, and enable them to discover that which will be profitable unto them at all times and under all conditions. He verily is the All-Possessing, the Most High. Bahá'u'lláh.

Child Education Committee

Notice to Local Spiritual Assemblies.

This Committee kindly requests all Local Spiritual Assemblies that when sending advance notice of any Week-end or Day School they are organising, that notice be sent to them also. It does not matter whether child education sessions or children's activities are included in the programme or not.

Secretary: Mrs. Lina Smithson,
92 Beechwood Road,
Sanderstead,
South Croydon, Surrey,
CR2 0AB.

"The Little Journal".

A Bahá'í Magazine for the Children of the British Isles.

Published every three Bahá'í months.

Annual subscription for six copies: 5 shillings.

Please send subscriptions to the
Treasurer: Mrs. May Moore,
19 South Primrose Hill,
Chelmsford, Essex.

and younger than himself. 'Abdu'l-Bahá has said: "There are also sacred duties of children toward parents; these duties are written in the Book of God, as belonging to God. The children's prosperity in this world and the Kingdom depends upon the good pleasure of parents, and without this they will be in manifest loss." (Star of the West, Vol. IX, page 91).

... One must of course protect young children against the companionships that are detrimental, but later the child will be on his own, responsibility to choose from a greater variety of children. If the child has been brought up in an atmosphere of love, justice and tolerance, he will resent hatred, injustice and intolerance. A child may go through a phase in which he seems to prefer the child whose objectionable behaviour is more dramatic than that of others but this admiration is only on the surface. The child who has been given an early appreciation of spiritual qualities will recognise them and look for them in his companions.

We as adults must be ever ready to recognise the spiritual qualities we see developing in our children and appreciate them. This does not mean perpetual praise, which is of course objectionable, and may even act as a stumbling block to further spiritual development. Children naturally like to be singled out for special attention. However, it is well to teach them that real distinction lies in possessing spiritual attributes. Older children should memorize the following words given to us by 'Abdu'l-Bahá:

"I desire distinction for you. The Bahá'ís must be distinguished from others of humanity. But this distinction must not depend upon wealth—that they should be more affluent than other people. I do not desire for you financial distinction. It is not ordinary distinction I desire; not scientific, commercial, industrial distinction. For you I desire spiritual distinction; that is, you must become distinguished in morals. In the love of God you must become distinguished from all else. You must become distinguished for loving humanity; for unity and accord; for love and justice. In brief, you must become distinguished in all virtues of the human world; for faithfulness and sincerity; for justice and fidelity; for firmness and steadfastness; for philanthropic deeds and service to the human world, for love toward every human being; for unity and accord with all the people; for removing prejudices and promoting international peace. Finally, you must become distinguished for heavenly illumination and acquiring the bestowals of God. I desire this distinction among you. This must be the point of distinction for you." (Promulgation of Universal Peace, page 185).

Reproduced from the Bahá'í News, September, 1940, pp 8, 9.

APPRECIATION

"O Friend, in the garden of thy heart, plant not but the rose of love and from the nightingale of desire and yearning loosen not thy hold. Treasure the companionship of the righteous and withdraw thyself from fellowship with the ungodly." (Hidden Words).

How, a mother asks, can I teach my child to distinguish between desirable and undesirable companions? How can I teach him to ignore outward appearances such as colour of skin, poverty, physical disabilities and to see rather only spiritual qualities among his associates? My son often finds disobedient, objectionable children very exciting and amusing. He frequently imitates them in his own behaviour.

Perhaps the answer to this mother might be put into a single word—appreciation. If, for example, we want children to distinguish between good and poor music, we begin early to expose them to good music and thus lay a foundation for a true appreciation of music. Later when they hear all sorts of music, they will be able to distinguish between the good and the poor.

Coming back to our small boy, we may say that if he is going to appreciate real values in human relationships, he must be taught this appreciation early. Those who are with him while he is young, must endeavour to show forth the attributes of God. The child must be treated honestly, fairly, kindly and sympathetically. The Golden Rule must be the rule of the home in which he lives. He too must be expected to be as just in his dealings with others as they are with him. This includes his treatment of the grown-ups as well as children both older

SUMMER SCHOOL — EIRE



For the first time the British School was held in Ireland (Eire) in the goal town of Dun Laoghaire, just outside Dublin. The theme was based upon the following extract from a letter of the Universal House of Justice: "upon our efforts depends in a very large measure the fate of Humanity" and the programme, woven on this blue-print, high-lighted many aspects of the Faith, of both history, laws and administration. The number attending exceeded our expectations. About 90 attended during the second weekend. Although the number of countries represented was not great we were blessed with friends from Norway, America, Persia and Africa. The overall spirit felt was commented on by several of the older friends as probably being the best in their memory, and, as the theme developed this became apparent to many others.

Everyone was deeply thankful for the bounties brought us by the presence of the Hand of the Cause Mr. Jalal Khazéh, who is at present stationed in South America. His joyous humour, his wisdom, his profound knowledge of the Faith and his account of his experience of Persia were in a great measure, a contribution to the success of the school. Although his subjects ranged widely, most of the time, the highlights were dissertations on the Universal House of Justice and the Hands of the Cause, Bahá'í Education, as well as stories of visiting pioneers in Persia.

Attendance at the various sessions was enthusiastic and the development of the "workshop" principle was welcomed by all and proved very successful. Sets of three workshops

were on, "Goals of the Nine-Year Plan", "Laws and Ordinances of the Faith," "Building the Administrative Order" and "Teaching the Cause of God"; high-light at the end of the last session was the playing of the tape, sent from the World Centre, presenting Betty Reed being interviewed for B.B.C. World Service, broadcast to untold millions of mankind a short while ago. Sessions on the Central figures of the Faith were expertly presented and a deeper understanding of the meaning and power of the Covenant was communicated by several sessions. We all owed Adib Taherzadeh so much for his brilliantly delivered late-night sessions, which were well attended. His informal chats ranged over many deep subjects and many questions were answered.

The use of slides, films, sound and projectograph brought so much of the Faith alive and real and demonstrated the development of audio-visual aids. The Bahá'í children, during their morning sessions, presented many artistic items which amazed the adults.

During the afternoons of free time, visits were made to the local beauty spots, such as Glendalough and Howth, thus showing to the friends the range of lovely countryside on this Emerald Isle. Small parties from time to time visited the grave of the Hand of the Cause George Townshend, in the beautiful and quaint little town of Enniskerry; where he was buried in 1957. Indeed, on receipt of a request from the Universal House of Justice, in reply to our cable of greeting from the School, an official deputation of nine, went one morning at 8.00 a.m. to lay flowers on the grave

and to pray for release of bounties for the development of the Cause in Eire.

Two Ceili's (Irish Hooley's) were held, both mostly "happening" at the last moment, but very successful in their execution. High-light was a brilliant impersonation of our beloved National Secretary (during a mock N.S.A. meeting) producing a side-splitting climax to the first week's social activities. The success of a Barbecue, held about the middle period of the School, was measured by the lack of breakfast goers the following morning!

One most stimulating late-night session was given by Betty Reed on the meaning and significance of Incorporation, which is a feature of increasing importance as we develop and emerge from obscurity.

The intense spirit of the school, the essential character of the various sessions, the love generated for the Hand of the Cause and the desire evoked to assist in the vital goals of Eire were all, perhaps, expressed in the "life-blood", by the sum of £145 raised during the Summer School period. Book sales were in excess of £80. As well, several possible pioneer offers materialised as the importance of the remaining unfulfilled goals were emphasised.

The Irish friends felt that this school could possibly be the turning point of the Cause in Ireland, indeed of the Cause in the whole of the British Isles, and with supreme sacrifices every goal can be achieved on time, nay, exceeded.

The sadness of parting was only eased by the thought that this may be the first of many Summer Schools on this Island of saints and scholars.

National Youth Committee

If you are wondering what the National Youth Committee does, read this article carefully. You will then stop wondering and start thinking of how you can join in with the work. The National Youth Committee strives to seek the most effective ways of organising and using the energy and enthusiasm of the youth of the British Bahá'í Community, locally, nationally and internationally, keeping in close touch with the English, Irish, Welsh and Scottish Goals Committees.

ANNUAL YOUTH EVENTS

Four specific projects are planned and carried out by the N.Y.C. each year. These are:—

1. The York Winter School.
2. An intensive one-week course (so far referred to as the University Week Course).
3. The Spring Conference.
4. Spring and summer holiday youth teaching projects.

The detailed work of organising these projects is often carried out by ad-hoc committees through whose membership use is made of the energy and ability of the Bahá'í youth, as well as any specialist experience which exists in the community, youth or adult. The annual projects of last year were very successful and encouraging indeed and have paved the way for even more exciting programmes for the current year.

ORIENTATION VERSUS ORGANISATION.

What the world needs most is orientation rather than organisation and what is even more badly needed is oriented organisation. The orientation of the Bahá'ís is derived from Bahá'u'lláh's Revelation. The recognition of Bahá'u'lláh as the Manifestation of God comes after independent investigation but once we have fully recognised and accepted Him, our purposes, goals and values are clearly outlined. We need no longer be confused by the conflicting standards of our contemporaries. Within this new framework every act derives its meaning and worth. The immediate goals and purposes of the Bahá'í youth have been specifically defined by the Universal House of Justice, the supreme and infallible institution of Bahá'u'lláh's World Order, in the letter to the Bahá'í youth in every land (10th June, 1966).

"Three great fields of service lie open before young Bahá'ís, in which they will simultaneously be remaking the character of human society and preparing themselves for the work that they can undertake later in their lives."

- (1) "First, the foundation of all their accomplishments, is their study of the Teachings, the spiritualisation of their lives and the forming of their characters in accordance with the standards of Bahá'u'lláh"
- (2) "The second field of service, which is linked intimately with the first, is

teaching the Faith, particularly to their fellow-youth"

- (3) The third field of service is the preparation by youth for their later years . . . it is the duty of children to acquire knowledge of the arts and sciences and to learn a trade or profession whereby they, in turn, can earn their living and support their families.

Leading an active, meaningful life as young Bahá'ís requires a total commitment and determination to "deepen themselves in their knowledge of the divine message, to develop their characters after the pattern of The Master, to acquire those skills, trades and professions in which they can best serve God and man, to intensify their service to the cause of Bahá'u'lláh and to radiate its message to the seekers among their contemporaries". How we can best respond to the message of the Universal House of Justice is a question we each have to answer to ourselves. The Bahá'í administration is the means of achieving the objectives outlined for us; and the various committees strive to maintain our orientation. The National Assembly is requesting Local Assemblies to appoint wherever possible/feasible, local youth committees which will, of course, be responsible to the parent L.S.A. and have its energetic and sustained support. At the present time there are only ten local youth committees but many more will be appointed in the current year and the youth activities will be concentrated basically at the local level.

PLANS IN TRANSITION.

In addition to the annual youth projects, the N.Y.C. is working on three new projects which as yet are not finalised. These projects are:—

- (1) Deepening of the youth through monthly weekend gatherings.
- (2) Teaching the Faith to fellow youth through monthly weekend gatherings.
- (3) Preparation for later years:
 - (a) Guidance about Courses of study.
 - (b) Arts and Crafts exhibition at the York Winter School, 1969.

The first two projects will be carried out by the local Youth Committees whose numbers are vastly increasing this year. A Sub-Committee has been appointed to prepare in detail several programmes suitable for the first project (deepening week-end school). All references, talks, etc. for each programme will be provided. With reference to the second project, i.e. teaching the Faith to fellow youth, the N.Y.C. has devised a simple and exciting project. When the details of the two projects have been finalised, they will be sent to the local youth committees through their parent L.S.A.'s. The N.Y.C. will be glad to give as much guidance in the execution of these projects as the local committees need.

The third project is also in the planning stage. For the time being, useful information about various fields of study (useful for pioneering) will be inserted in the Journal under the heading "preparation for later years". To encourage young Bahá'ís in developing their artistic talents the committee has decided to hold an Arts and Crafts exhibition at York Winter School during the 1969 session. Entries for this exhibition will be on display during the whole session. Awards will be given to those of exceptional quality.

PREPARATION FOR LATER YEARS.

If you have a good command of the English Language (whether or not you are a British Citizen) you can attend 2—4 week courses for teaching English to foreign students at the International language centre. Their teaching methods have proved very successful, and the certificate gained from this institute will be of value to the youth who plan to pioneer in the non-English speaking countries. Details of the course may be obtained from:

International House,
40, Shaftesbury Avenue,
London, W.1.
Tel.: GERrard 9167.

YOUTH NEWS.

1. Summer Youth Projects:

Over 15 Bahá'í youth are now participating in summer teaching projects. Several groups are teaching in Ireland, Scotland, Orkneys, St. Austell, Wales (during and after the Welsh Eisteddfod). Reports of their work have not all been received. We do, however, have a post-card received from one of the youth from the Orkneys. He writes:—

"Last night a fireside was attended by nine contacts. This represents a significant breakthrough in the Orkneys. Pray at shrine when possible for success here—two very close to the Faith. I wish I could convey the excitement here to you".

Irene and Helene Momtaz and May Khadem write the following about their project in St. Austell:—

"Upon our arrival in St. Austell, we were greeted with bright Cornish smiles and cries of 'Allah-u-Abhá' by two members of our Bahá'í family whom we were meeting for the first time, Brian and Carol Huxtable. The spirit and love that radiated from these two young pioneers made us realise how fortunate we were to be able to serve on this project. The beauty and gaiety of the countryside matched our happy and joyous spirit as we sped along passing the clay-mining and factories. When we arrived at their home, the familiar sign of The Greatest Name and the picture of 'Abdu'l-Bahá caught our eyes and welcomed us.

Continued on page five

One of our most rewarding experiences was our meeting with Anita Lee, a radiant woman we met on the first day. Anita informed us that she had been studying various religions and philosophies for a long time in her search after an ultimate answer. She expressed interest in studying the Bahá'í Faith and followed it up with an invitation to her home. This we accepted immediately. Later at her home she asked many questions.

The intensity of her desire for truth was clearly evident that afternoon. We left her with some pamphlets and invited her to a fireside that evening. With an armful of freshly picked flowers she showed up at our door three hours later. After a pleasant evening of getting acquainted, we presented her with 'Paris Talks'. The look on her face as she opened the book and gazed at the picture of 'Abdu'l-Bahá was indeed wonderful. The fireside continued with entertainment on a deserted beach, after which we all drove to Anita's house and met her husband, a carpenter by trade, a wise man by nature. He was as receptive as his wife and silently listened to the talk she gave on several aspects of the Faith. We left them with the assurance that Bryan and Carol would meet them again.

Our next encounter was with a priest. As we were looking for halls where public meetings could eventually be held, we came across a small modern church hall. Though we were hot and tired, we couldn't resist the overwhelming force that continually pushed us onward. We walked towards the hall and met the curate in charge with his young son jumping at his side. The priest was struck by the word Bahá'í and expressed a desire to know more. He invited us to his home that evening. We met him in his study. With great formality he asked our names, surnames and professions. With the same attitude he asked us the purpose of our trip and the Bahá'í concept of the relationship between God and man. After explaining the Bahá'í point of view, we asked for his. For an hour he continued, without interruption. It could have been most enjoyable but wasn't—because we were impatient and wanted to tell him everything. Perhaps it taught us a very important principle, that it is wrong to force our opinion on others and we should always remember our duty of ceaselessly teaching the Faith yet never imposing it on anyone. *"The wise are they that speak not unless they obtain a hearing even as the cupbearer, who proffereth not his cup till he findeth a seeker"*

At the conclusion of his talk, we pointed out the fact that we agreed with him on almost every point. "What's the difference then?" he sighed, discouraged. This memorable evening finished at 1.30 a.m. and we were very kindly offered and accepted to sleep there on comfortable camp-beds. The next evening, we arrived at their house, at their invitation, bearing a gift of 'The Heart of The Gospel'. Our conversation that night carried into the

early hours of the morning. As time progressed, his interest seemed to intensify.

On another occasion we were taken by surprise while dining, when the bell rang and two young blind men entered, asking for Bahiyyeh, their college friend. Unfortunately, however, she had not been able to come to Cornwall because of a change of plans. The two gentlemen, however, shared our modest Persian meal. We spent a pleasant evening discussing the Administration and answering their relevant questions about the idealism of the Bahá'í Faith. We supplemented our serious discussion with a spirit of gaiety. One could hear roars of laughter late in the night!

For a change, we concentrated our efforts on St. Agnes and went from one farmhouse to another with Naomi Long. We met individuals and families who have known about the Faith for years and were hungry for the Bahá'í spirit, yet rarely have the opportunity to appease their hunger. Bahá'ís in that area are very scarce. During the course of the day we came across a family whose Bahá'í spirit and hospitality bore witness to their closeness to that all-encompassing power of our beloved Faith.

That evening, we arrived at the door of an elegant but simple flat overlooking the sea. This was the home of Bernard Leach, an outstanding yet humble man who greeted us with warm smiles and "Allah'u'Abhá!" As we entered the fireside room, we all sensed an atmosphere of serenity and peace. Through the full-length picture-window, we could see the red sun bid us good-night. "Truth is beauty!" rang in our ears as we left.

Anita, Colin, David, Dilys, Carol Bryan, Bernard, Naomi . . . these names all bring to mind one special word: 'happiness'. That is the word we most often think of when we think of our ten days in St. Austell. Everything and everybody—the townspeople, the children, our Bahá'í friends, the sunshine, the countryside—all manifested this priceless quality which The Master so often pleads us to show forth.

At this point we should like to take the opportunity of sharing with you the conclusions we have arrived at and the lessons we have learned from this journey to the south. It is so important to realise that we must give the message to everyone. Yet at the same time, we must be very tactful and discriminating. The light of this revelation is so intense that some cannot bear to be exposed to it all at once. The receptivity of individuals differ. We should allow this knowledge to guide us when we expose our friends to the Faith. *"Proclaim the Cause of thy Lord unto all who are in the heavens and on the earth. Should any man respond to thy call, lay bare before him the pearls of the wisdom of the Lord, thy God, which His Spirit hath sent down unto thee, and be thou of them that truly believe. And should any one reject thy offer, turn thou away from him, and put thy trust and confidence in*

the Lord thy God, the Lord of all worlds."

One thing was immediately clear to us; that we should be as "reeds" and allow the spirit of Truth to flow through and impart the good news of the advent of God's message.

Every minute of our lives should be devoted to teaching and strengthening our faith through meditation and prayer. We must let *"our hearts be spacious, as spacious as the Universe of God"*, capable of loving the poor and the rich alike. *"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"*.

2. Travel Teaching.

The secretary of the Bahá'í Association at Harvard, Miss Julie Smithies, visited several Bahá'í communities in England during the period of 25th July—8th August. She has given firesides both at home and abroad, has been on a travel teaching trip in Georgia and belongs to a group of five very active students at Harvard who have spoken on radio and television about the Faith.

Reports for The Journal.

Send material, reports of local youth activities, notices of week-end Schools, to: The Journal Correspondent,

c/o Miss E. Asbury,
36, Redan Street,
London, W.14.

"WRITING ON THE GROUND"

by Major W. Tudor-Pole.

Part three of this eminent writer's new book is an exciting addition to literature concerning the Bahá'í Faith.

Prefaced by a reproduction of an etching of 'Abdu'l-Bahá which has been in Tudor-Pole's possession for over half a century and which he believes was drawn from life when 'Abdu'l-Bahá was in Paris, the titles of the chapters are:

15. The Bahá'í Faith.
16. Personal Recollections ('Abdu'l-Bahá Abbas).
17. "Ye are all Fruits of One Tree".
18. The Fall of Haifa. (The Safeguarding of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and His Family).
19. The Master as a Seer.
20. The Prison House at St. Jean D'Acre. (Extract from a letter written in November 1918).

The friends know of the indebtedness of the Bahá'í world to Major Tudor-Pole for his part in securing the safety of 'Abdu'l-Bahá when General Allenby, captured Haifa from the Turks in 1918 and we believe that many will wish to possess for themselves a copy of this book, with these fascinating chapters. The Publishing Trust has placed a pre-publication order for a considerable quantity. It costs 21/- post free in the British Isles (overseas orders 1/6d. extra). Order NOW from the Bahá'í Publishing Trust,
2, South Street,
OAKHAM, Rutland.

News from the Communities

ABERDEEN.

Thirty children dressed themselves in costumes of various countries, to celebrate World Children's Day, and were guests of Mrs. B. G. Donald who organised the event. The children were given a talk about the event, a prize was given for the most original costume and later a party was held in the garden. This activity was reported in the local press and many people have approached Mr. and Mrs. Donald enquiring about the Faith, neighbours, friends and relatives, and their attitude was very warm and friendly.

BRIGHTON.

The friends assisted in the initial planning and participated in a highly successful three-day conference based on the organisation, the Spiritual Unity of Nations. During the conference there were thirty-two speakers, each representing a different organisation such as Buddhists, Spiritualists, Islam, Theosophists. Paul Adams spoke on the Bahá'í Faith which was well received and there was excellent follow-up by people asking questions and purchasing literature on the Faith, which was on display. Articles on the Faith appeared in the organisation's publication 'Voice' which has circulation both at home and abroad as a result of which four enquiries for literature were received, including one from a student in Ghana.

ECCLES.

It seemed that the need for a Weekend School must have been great in these parts! Whilst we expected the support of the friends, in and around the North West, we did not expect the almost overwhelming success it became! In numbers, about 100 friends attended during the two days. In spirit, in love, in fellowship, it was something we have not experienced for many years. This was the unanimous opinion of all who participated.

No doubt the theme of the school "The relationship between the Guardian and the Universal House of Justice" was also a great attraction and our two speakers, Adib Taherzadeh and Dick Backwell, who came all the way from Ireland to give us their wonderful services, must be counted as a great blessing. The benefit we derived from their exquisite depth and knowledge shared with all of us, giving their very best in every respect—cannot be described. We had a banquet, and we all realised it.

Obviously no school is a success without a fully appreciative audience, one not just there in body, but also in spirit, we had that as well. Actually, some friends who attended the first day and returned on the second, admitted that they felt they could not stay away and miss the rest. We are sure, that the friends who missed this one, won't miss the next one, as the news will have

spread fast to tell the others what a feast we had. So much encouraged, we shall not wait too long to arrange another school, before this year is out, God willing.

Other items which added to the success of the school were, the delightful slide show laid on for us by Madeleine Hellaby, excellently executed, and also the place where the school was held, easy to find, lovely surroundings, even in Eccles, a large airy meeting room, armchairs for the weary ones, the domestic facilities for the physical requirements on the spot, what more could anybody ask for? We are sure that a new spirit was infused through this medium into these parts—in fact long overdue!

We pray that such valuable teachers may be free more often to give us more of their knowledge and share with all the friends their gift. We have missed this type of 'togetherness' far too long, and we have been starved of the spiritual bounties which, in fact, some of the friends had not experienced at all before. We have to re-establish the loving spirit without repression, we must be able and free to debate any points without holding back, we must trust each other and even in disagreement be without 'heat'; we must love without fear, but most of all we must now progress without collapse.

If, at the end of this school there was emotion shewn, it proved that we all had been stirred within our very being and a great consciousness of the presence of Bahá'u'lláh was felt by all.

'This is the Standard'
'This is the Standard'
'This is the Standard'.

EXETER.

The Exeter Community have for some time considered the possibility of holding a week-end school at Killerton Hall, a lovely old mansion eight miles outside the city. There were many problems. However, on July 29th and 30th an annual gathering was held there by the Ellacombe Church (Chapel of Christ The Healer) of Torquay, and Dr. Ta'eed was invited once again to speak to them, his subject being "Mental and Emotional Factors in Health". The Bahá'í Community was invited to attend and several of us spent the whole of Saturday and part of Sunday with them. The atmosphere of the school was truly delightful and the week end became virtually a Bahá'í school. Dr. Ta'eed is a close friend of the Rev. Jack Burton and a favourite with his parishioners. Fifty to sixty people heard for the first time the Message of Bahá'u'lláh; names and addresses were exchanged and many requests were made for copies of "Thy Name is my healing". The Assembly is having a special hand printed copy of the prayer made and framed as a gift to the Church from the Exeter Bahá'í Community.

On the Sunday afternoon Dr. Ta'eed spoke at a public meeting in Exeter, his title being "Security in a Failing World". This was attended by Bahá'ís from Bow, Torbay, Plymouth and Cornwall and ten contacts, three of whom came all the way from Tiverton.

Bahá'ís of our Community are regularly attending meetings of the Exeter Human Rights Year Committee and the Chairman of the L.S.A. is a member of the Steering Committee of five.

GREAT PAXTON.

A successful one-day school was held at the Manor Farm, on June 9th. The purpose of the school was to foster the family unity by catering for all members of Bahá'í families equally. Adults and children each had their own separate programmes, the children learned about L.S.A. election procedure and how to consult, e.g. they collected £3 9s. 5d., and decided in consultation that it should go to the International Deputisation Fund. In the evening they had a film show, again helping the Fund by selling tickets. Prizes were given for well behaved children, and sessions ran very smoothly. Babies were cared for in a special room.

The adult sessions were held at an advanced level for study of the "Kitáb-i-Iqán" and "Life After Death".

In the afternoon, children and adults had a joint session of devotions and stories of the early days of the Faith.

Peak attendance was about 70 with one third being children. The success was due to the experience of the lecturers and the self-sacrifice of the youth session organisers. It is hoped to hold other such schools for all age groups in the near future.

LEICESTER.

Friends from Leeds, Nottingham, Lincoln, Belfast and Liverpool joined in a weekend school held at the Bahá'í Centre, Leicester, on 29/30th June, commencing on the Saturday evening with a talk by Dr. Shahin Fathe'azam on "Can Religion and Science be reconciled?" followed on the Sunday morning with George Bowers speaking on "The Divine Law". Both talks were most interesting and brought forward many questions from the friends.

During Sunday afternoon a Public Meeting was held in the Bell Hotel, Leicester, at which Philip Hainsworth was the speaker on "Bahá'í Faith and Human Rights". Philip said for these talks he had two hats, a Human Rights hat and a Bahá'í hat. As little interest has been displayed on Human Rights in Leicester Philip wore his Bahá'í hat, and his inspired talk sparked off many questions from the several non-Bahá'ís present.

LINCOLN.

For the first time in Lincolnshire a Week-end School was held at the "Cardinals Hat" organised by Jack and Vivienne Crook. An excellent report appeared in the Lincolnshire Chronicle.

ORKNEY ISLAND.

Since May of this year we have had a three-month visit from Beatrice, Mary and Flo Newman, of Winchester and Wales; also Jo and Vivien Watson, of Ireland, on an extended visit until the end of the summer. During this time visits to four of the smaller Orkney Islands have been made and books distributed on three of them, also one of the friends visited the Faroe Islands for two weeks. The Bahá'í Centre in the town has been opened nearly every day and discussion and devotional meetings are held there weekly.

In June we were very happy to welcome Rita Bridge from Cardiff who has come to Orkney as a pioneer. Within a week Rita found work with the main newsagent in the town which has since proved of great advantage in meeting and getting to know people, and has resulted, for the first time, in a number of contacts being made among the youth.

At the beginning of July, Gina and Faramarz Mazandarani, with John Jameson, spent a very active week here starting with a folk concert in aid of "Save the Children Fund", starring Gina and John and accompanied by eight local singers, dancers and musicians. This was followed by folk evenings held in the home of the Meh-rabi's which resulted in some of the young people present asking about the Faith, two of whom are now reading books.

Three youth, two from England and one from America, are currently camping in the island. Charles and Yvonne Macdonald came for a week at the end of July, when Charles spoke to the Rotary Club on "The Bahá'í Faith", addressing a locally run discussion group, as well as meeting contacts and friends at a fireside and discussion meeting in the Bahá'í Centre.

News for August is the arrival of about eleven more friends spending their holidays here to assist in the teaching project, the possibility of another pioneer, a Bahá'í Display Stand at the County Show, and a weekend school in Kirkwall on 17/18 August.

On June 19th our hearts were uplifted by the following encouraging letter from the Universal House of Justice:

"Dear Bahá'í Friends,

We were delighted to receive a card from Orkneys dated the 12th of June signed by yourselves and seven other believers. What a wonderful day it will be when you can form your first Spiritual Assembly in Orkneys. The loving greetings conveyed on the card are heartily reciprocated and we assure you of our prayers in the Holy Shrines for

divine confirmation to reward your devoted efforts in establishing the Cause in Orkneys.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,
(signed),
THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE.

RICHMOND.

During the past few months the youth have successfully organised social activities including a picnic in Kew Gardens and a Bahá'í Youth Feast, which was arranged to attract the youth in and around London, and afforded opportunity to discuss ways and means to increase their participation in activities during the Proclamation period. Letters from the Guardian and the Universal House of Justice, on teaching and living the Bahá'í life were discussed. At all sessions there was fun, laughter and gaiety. Very useful ideas were forwarded for consideration by the National Youth Committee.

A White Elephant sale raised £18 for the National Fund.

SWINTON.

One of the most thrilling experiences one could possibly have was enjoyed by the Bahá'ís of Swinton on the 23rd—24th June. The Vicar of the Bolton Unitarian Church invited us to take part in a Service of All Faiths on the Sunday. He selected from the Holy Scriptures of the Hebrew, Hindu, Buddhist, Parsee, Sikh, Moslem, Bahá'í and Christian Teachings and representatives of each Faith read these selections at the beginning of the meeting. A selection of Prayers and hymns were then interspersed in the service and these were followed by speakers from the various religions giving either readings or a very short resumé of their beliefs.

This, the third of these very interesting gatherings, took a slightly different pattern from previous ones as this resumé gave the opportunity to the Buddhists and the Moslems to explain something of their beliefs which was easier to understand than Scripture itself. Mrs. June Brent, the representative from Swinton who made the first presentation, and Mrs. Pauline Senior explained something of our Bahá'í beliefs.

There was a golden thread running through the whole of the meeting, and when the speakers had finished the minister asked the whole congregation to stand up—if they were so moved to do—and make a solemn affirmation. We quote this affirmation because we were so moved by it, in fact we all felt very close to tears by the sheer joy of the moment.

"As men and women of diverse faiths we affirm our unity before the Eternal God and our faith in the Divine Spirit in man.

Which treasures ancient wisdom, measures modern thought, and glories in the growing vastness of knowledge;

Which recognises in all prophets a harmony, in all scriptures a unity, and through all dispensations a continuity.

Which abhors all that separates and divides, and magnifies brotherhood and peace;

Which seeks discipline in social duty, freedom from truth, justice through mercy and love through sacrifice;

And which shall make of all sects, classes, nations and races, one fellowship of men.

To serve this Faith and all men throughout the world we pledge the allegiance of our hearts and our hands".

After this the Canon of Bolton Church gave a very appropriate address based on Human Rights.

The congregation were invited to a cup of tea and chat in the School Hall afterwards, and here many questions were asked. Bahá'í friends from Eccles, Stretford, Birmingham, and Burnley also came along to support the meeting.

The Swinton friends also had the great pleasure of the visit of Mansur Shah from Birmingham at a meeting held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Brent on the Saturday evening, so altogether it was a very exciting week-end.

WANDSWORTH.

The Wandsworth community has for the past eighteen months been holding regular monthly firesides as part of its planned 'Teaching' programme, but until recently there was no great measure of success. However, in spite of this it was decided to hold these firesides on a regular weekly basis and since that decision teaching has gone from strength to strength.

At the first weekly fireside there were sixteen people in attendance, eight of whom were non-Bahá'ís; the following week there were five Bahá'ís and five contacts, and at the fireside after that twelve people including six 'seekers' came. On all these occasions the Spirit of Bahá'u'lláh was truly vitalising the community's teaching efforts, and was manifested in a declaration which came after only two firesides.

Evidently news of these activities had been circulating amongst the friends as there was a sudden influx of Bahá'ís who came without any contacts at all; so much so that at a recent fireside there were sixteen Bahá'ís to only nine non-Bahá'ís, a proportion which obviously hampered teaching.

It can be stated at this point that the underlying reason for the success of these firesides can be attributed to that Divine Institution, the Universal House of Justice, which has been offering prayers at the Holy Shrines for the Wandsworth community's success in teaching the Faith. The community has recently received two letters from the Universal House of Justice; immediately following the first letter there was a notable increase in the fireside activity and it was following the second letter that the declaration came. This was manifest proof to the Bahá'ís of Wandsworth of the tremendous spiritual authority enshrined within the Universal House of Justice.

Continued on page eight

Continued from page seven

On 5th June 1968 the community held the first public meeting in a series of monthly meetings held on the first Wednesday of each month at Dryburgh Hall, New Putney Swimming Pool, Upper Richmond Road, London, S.W.15. There were two Speakers who each gave a talk under the title "Status of Women". Mrs. Rubens chairman of the British Council of Jewish Women spoke first, covering a wide range of principles closely allied to those of the Faith. Riaz Khadem followed after her with an excellent talk which outlined the position of women in the past, present and future, both inside and outside the Faith. Forty-five people in all attended out of which there were fifteen seekers.

Wandsworth's second meeting in this series had the Bahá'í principle "Oneness of Mankind" as its title. The sixty-one people present heard the first speaker, Mr. Hugh Jenkins, Labour M.P., Putney, give an interesting talk from a humanitarian's point of view on mankind's need for unity. Although he did not believe in the existence of God, he was prepared to admit that "I might be wrong!" Mrs. Meherangiz Munsiff then spoke of the principles revealed by Bahá'u'lláh for the unification of mankind. From the searching questions that followed it was evident that Bahá'u'lláh was stirring the hearts of the thirty-three seekers there.

INTERNATIONAL FUND

24 June, 1968.

To all National Spiritual Assemblies.
Dear Bahá'í Friends,

The call that went out last year to all National Spiritual Assemblies informing them of the needs of the International Fund in order that certain major undertakings vital to the future progress of the cause might be embarked upon was met with a generous and heart-warming response.

Extensive beautification of the sacred endowments surrounding the Holy Shrine in Bahji is well under way; the Intercontinental Conferences and the International Convention have been held; the cornerstone of the Panama Temple has been laid, and actual construction is scheduled to commence in the early months of 1969.

The first oceanic conference will soon be held in Palermo, Sicily, to be followed by a special observance in the Holy Land commemorating the arrival of Bahá'u'lláh on these shores on August 31 one hundred years ago.

The rapid development of the World Centre of the Faith, the more widespread activities and travel of the Hands of the Cause of God and the establishment by the Universal House of Justice of eleven Continental Boards of Counsellors as well as the increasing needs and opportunities of the mass-teaching areas will call for a substantial increase in the budget requirements of the International Fund.

We again call upon every National Spiritual Assembly to consider how it can effectively assist in meeting the

growing needs of the International Fund, and respond whole-heartedly to this call.

Please be assured of our ardent prayers in the Holy Shrines for your guidance and assistance.

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

VISIT OF HAND

17th July, 1968.

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

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

Your letters of May 20th and May 30th with enclosures setting out the position of the British Bahá'í Community vis-a-vis the goals of the Nine Year Plan were received just as we were reviewing the progress of that Plan throughout the world.

There is no doubt that great strides have been made but, as you so well realise, the pace of expansion must be considerably accelerated if you are to emerge victorious in 1973.

From a study of your work in the last few years it appears that the most intractable problem facing the British believers is the establishment and maintenance of Local Spiritual Assemblies, which does not keep pace with the steady increase in number of localities and the number of believers. The Universal House of Justice has the utmost confidence in the ability of the British believers, who opened for themselves such a glorious destiny under the inspired guidance of their beloved Guardian, to break the back of every problem, no matter how obdurate or impossible of solution it may seem, and by their well-known qualities of toughness, fortitude and spiritual devotion repair the deficiencies in the progress towards full achievement of the goals.

In order to help this dearly-loved community we have arranged with Hand of the Cause William Sears to spend about two months in the British Isles following the Palermo Conference and his visit to the Holy Land, assisting the British believers on their home front. Please work out a teaching schedule for this period in consultation with Mr. Sears, who may be reached at 1442 Windsor Drive, Thousand Oaks, California 91360, U.S.A.

We feel sure that the British friends, with their traditional response to crisis, will summon their resources and take a tremendous leap forward during the next few months and pave the way for the achievement, within the time allotted, of all the goals assigned to them.

Be assured of our ardent prayers in the Holy Shrines for the confirmations of Bahá'u'lláh upon your devoted efforts.

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

ONE DAY SCHOOL.

The Guildhall, Winchester, Saturday, 28th September, 1968.

Enquiries to:

Mrs. Barbara Lewis,
21 Hyde Close,
Winchester. (Tel. No. 5924).

SCOTTISH GOALS COMMITTEE

Five field workers have been appointed by the committee to visit lapsed Assemblies and goal towns in Scotland.

A Scottish Conference is planned for October 19th/20th (or 26th/27th as alternative) in Perth. It is hoped to hold a Summer School in Scotland next year.

A stream of visitors have been to Orkney, Shetland, Stornaway and Inner Hebrides. A recent report from Orkney stated that there have been 43 visitors to Kirkwall since last February.

The Committee is now very concerned about the situation in the Goal Towns. As you all know Dundee has to be opened by 12th November, the Birth of Bahá'u'lláh!

Glasgow's L.S.A. is to be re-established by next Ridván.

Hamilton, Dumbarton, North Berwick and Elgin are to be developed.

Friends, we are privileged to live in this age, when the doors of service to the Cause are open to us. The whole field of pioneering is before us.

Let us not lose the chance, for it shall come no more.

Let us remember that the destiny of the world of humanity depends largely on our unflinching efforts and servitude to Bahá'u'lláh.

The joy of pioneering is a precious gift given to and experienced only by those who do so.

WELSH GOALS COMMITTEE.

Extension Teaching in the Goal Town of Newport, Mon. continues in a very promising atmosphere. Public meetings are held at approximately monthly intervals. Planned (mainly) by the Welsh Goals Committee and supported by the Welsh Assemblies are gradually attracting a widening circle of enquirers a few of whom have become regular supporters.

A meeting will be arranged in Newport for any travel teacher offering to come to Wales. And if you can't manage a 'package tour', why not a "One night stand". New voices often attract larger audiences—and there is the Bounty of Travelling in His service.

Swansea and Cardiff have recently had the pleasure of a visit by Mrs. Munsiff. Meetings in the Guildhall and the Temple of Peace were arranged in collaboration with the committees for Human Rights year, were well supported and greatly appreciated.

CREDENTIALS.

Please note the following letter dated 15th July from the Universal House of Justice:

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

Will you please inform all the friends that whenever they travel to another country they should carry credentials supplied by their National Spiritual Assembly.

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

- BAHÁ'Í PUBLISHING TRUST -

INVESTMENT SCHEME

The greatly expanded range of literature now in the Trusts' catalogue which has been so warmly commended by the Hands in Haifa and which was so apparent to the friends at Teaching Conference necessitates more **finance**.

The expansion of the Trust called for by the Universal House of Justice in the Nine Year Plan is already under way (15% increase in sales in the last Bahá'í year, sales at Teaching Conference almost doubled this year) but this too necessitates the provision of more **finance**.

Plans at present in hand require a further £5,000 capital—£2,000 this year, £2,000 next and £1,000 the year after to enable the Trust to become the mighty teaching instrument it is destined to be and which the Guardian foresaw when he said that our Publishing Trust was to the British Bahá'ís what the Wilmette Temple was to the Americans.

Will **you** help to provide this extra capital?

LOANS can be made in any multiple of £25 for **fixed periods** of 5, 10, or 20 years bearing **INTEREST** at the rate of:

4½% p.a. on a 5 year loan.
4¾% p.a. on a 10 year loan and
5% p.a. on a 20 year loan.

Of course, you *can* get higher rates of interest elsewhere but by this investment **YOU ARE SERVING THE FAITH**.

(Interest free loans would certainly be welcomed!)

SEND your loans now to the Publishing Trust, 2 South Street, Oakham, Rutland.

You will receive an acknowledgment immediately and this will be followed by an official printed agreement from the National Spiritual Assembly.

Reprinted from a previous issue.

Amendments to Catalogue

The Trust more than doubled its sales last year as compared with the previous year and wishes to give the friends the benefit of this success by:

1. **NOT INCREASING** our prices to cover the increased **PARCEL POST RATES** which came into force on July 1st and

2. **REDUCING THE PRICES OF** the following 49 items:—

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|-----------|---------|--------|
| to 3d. | to 6d. | to 9d. | to 1/- | to 1/3 | to 1/6 | to 2/- | to 2/6 | to 3/- | to 3/6 |
| L 35 | L 20 | L 31 | L 21 | P 36 | P 7 | P 32 | P 8 | P 14 | P 16 |
| | L 24 | | L 22 | P 37 | P 31 | | P 13 | P 21 | |
| | L 26 | | L 25 | | | | P 20 | P 27 | |
| | L 27 | | L 29 | | | | P 24 | | |
| | L 28 | | L 38 | | | | P 29. | | |
| | L 30 | | P 1 | | | | | | |
| | L 39 | | | | | | | | |
| | L 40 | | | | | | | | |
| | P 34 | | | | | | | | |
| | P 35 | | | | | | | | |
| | L 14 (for 5) | | | | | | | | |
| to 4/- | to 4/6 | to 5/- | to 6/- | to 6/9 | to 9/- | to 12/- | to 15/- | to 25/- | |
| P 9 | P 17 | P 11 | P 41 | P 19 | P 18 | B 33 | B 74 | B 30 | |
| P 10 | P 22 | | | P 23 | | | (existing | | |
| P 12 | P 25 | | | P 26 | | | stock | | |
| | P 30 | | | | | | only) | | |

Supplies are **NOW AVAILABLE** of the new printing of L 2 (the yellow pamphlet) with its new cover, price 4/6 for 10 copies.

We have to announce **INCREASED** prices for five imported items:—

L 18 at 3d. each or 50 for 10/-
L 19 at 10 for 2/-;
L 36 at 6d. each;
P 28 at 2/6 and
P 39 at 6/9 each.

The following items are *no longer available*:—B 12; B 34; B 35; B 41 and L 15. Would the friends please **MAKE THESE ALTERATIONS IN THEIR CATALOGUES**?

If you do not possess a copy of our catalogue please send a stamped addressed 9" x 4" envelope for a **FREE** copy from 2, South Street, Oakham, Rutland.

OBITUARY FOR AILEEN BEALE

Aileen Beale, tireless pioneer for our beloved Faith, passed to the Abhá Kingdom on the 19th April, 1968, in the goal town of Poole. Friends from Stafford, Winchester, Salisbury, Christchurch, Wimborne, Bournemouth and Poole, in a procession of nine cars, accompanied her to her last resting-place.

Coming into the Faith from the Moral Rearmament Movement and from a well-known local family from whom she encountered much opposition, Aileen made an early pilgrimage to Haifa, where the Guardian asked her to teach on the Home Front.

In the following eleven years, Aileen pioneered nine times: to five cathedral cities and four towns, namely, Edinburgh, Bristol, Nottingham, Dublin, Brighton, Salisbury, Canterbury, Epsom, Winchester, and finally returned to Poole. We can learn the spirit of sacrifice from Aileen's example of leaving a beautifully furnished and comfortable home, overlooking the sea, to live as a pioneer in a small attic bed-sitter. She never spared herself despite the painful and malignant disease which finally laid her low. Only her tremendous faith and will-power kept her alive when most other mortals might have succumbed long before.

Aileen was tireless in talking of the Faith to all kinds of people, many of whom were led to declare themselves as Bahá'ís. She persisted in organising and attending meetings right up to the time when her health broke and she was confined to bed.

Aileen will be remembered for her great generosity to Bahá'ís and non-Bahá'ís alike, for her courage in going out to bring the Faith to the attention of so many, and for her persistence in the face of opposition. She will, above all, be greatly missed by the Friends of Poole and Bournemouth.

WEEKEND SCHOOL IN KENDAL

There will be a weekend school in Kendal from 27th to 29th September on the theme "The Unfoldment of World Civilisation". It will begin with the celebration of the Feast of Mashiyyat on the Friday evening and will include talks, discussion, slides, a walk or outing to the Lakes and a social. There will also be classes for children.

The school will be held in the Y.W.C.A. Clubroom, Stricklandgate, Kendal. We are not undertaking booking for overnight visitors, but lists of hotels and bed and breakfast accommodation in the town will be sent on request. Please write to

Mrs. Madeline Hellaby,
Bridge House, Castle Street,
Kendal, Westmorland.

A small charge will be made to cover the cost of the school.

ENGLISH GOALS COMMITTEE

NUMBER OF BELIEVERS IN THE GOAL TOWNS AND ISLANDS.

| 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"/> |
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| 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, C.I. | | <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"/> |

Lapsed Assemblies.

Bradford, Chester, Winchester, Ealing, Northampton and York.

COMMENTS.

Although it will be noted from the above chart, Aylesbury is un-opened, pioneers will soon be moving there.

Despite the fact we are half way through the Nine Year Plan, in addition to Aylesbury, four other goal towns remain unopened. Bangor, N. Wales was blessed by the presence of a Persian Bahá'í some years ago, and Guernsey had a French Bahá'í there until recently, but so far, Shrewsbury and Hereford have been without Bahá'ís. All these places are charming, the three mainland goals being all surrounded by lovely country, and it is hoped that soon some soul will arise with the longing to be the representative of Bahá'u'lláh there.

"O my God! I ask Thee, by Thy most glorious name, to aid me in that which will cause the affairs of Thy servants to prosper, and Thy cities to flourish. Thou, indeed, hast power over all things!"
Bahá'u'lláh

NEWS FROM THE GOAL TOWNS.

Bath Group of Bahá'ís is enthusiastically organising a weekend school on October 27th—28th. The school will be launched on Friday night with a public meeting—a tour of this beautiful, and historic town, it is hoped will be arranged for Saturday morning, before commencing on more serious studies on Saturday afternoon. Those wishing for serious study, coupled with the charm of Somerset, please make a special note in your diary of this date. Details from:

Mr. N. Burroughs,
40 Sheridan Road,
Bath, Somerset.
BA2 1QY.

Durham this year are the recipients of a small number of youth on a Summer Youth project, started by the N.T.T.C.

and taken over by the English Goals Committee. The Youth will carry out a detailed survey of the town and help the pioneers to teach the Faith.

Ipswich is a town of "opportunities"! The Ipswich Bahá'í Group have been given the opportunity of taking part in a local exhibition called a Festival of Opportunity and which is to take place from 20th September—29th September inclusive. It is hoped as many friends as possible will help this little group to man the exhibition.

Kendal has made all the arrangements to hold its first weekend school on September 27th—29th. (See notice on Page 9).

St. Austell is the other goal town this summer who have had the bounty of a visit from three Bahá'í youth on a Youth Summer project similar to that in Durham. These youth are specially fortunate because they are able to share the home of the pioneers, and especially so because it is not far from a lovely Cornish beach!

Hereford. The Committee is delighted to report that several enquiries about the Faith have lately been received from this town, and pamphlets, books and an invitation to meet one of the committee members have been sent. How badly a pioneer is needed to whom these seeking souls can turn!

Committee Members Responsible for Certain Areas.

Every member of the committee will be taking an active part in helping to win the goals of the Nine Year Plan, and each will be responsible for certain areas containing goals and Assemblies which lapsed earlier this year, assisted by a team of "fieldworkers" who are to be appointed. Members and places

which are their responsibility are as follows:—

Betty Goode—Kendal, Carlisle, Bangor N. Wales, Chester, Isle of Man.

Derek Cockshut—Ipswich, Chelmsford, Aylesbury, Bedford, Northampton.

Brigitte Ferraby—Lincoln, Derby, Oakham.

Paul Adams & Thelma Halbert—Isle of Wight, Winchester, Ealing, Poole, St. Austell, Jersey, Guernsey.

Patrick Green—Stafford, Shrewsbury, Kidderminster, Hereford, Bath.

Iraj Zamiri—Bradford, Durham, York.

It is envisaged by the committee that a great deal of time will be spent visiting all the goal towns, islands and lapsed Assemblies, and the accent will be even more than ever before on personal contact.

Each member will be calling together his or her team of fieldworkers for a preliminary consultation, so that a plan of campaign can be worked out.

Travel Teaching/Visiting.

Plans launched by the N.T.T.C. for travel teaching, are being taken over and continued as before. Package Tours will be developed, and it is hoped will include tours in Scotland, Wales and Ireland with the co-operation of the other goals committees. Offers for package tours should be sent to:—

Andrew Gash,
233 St. Annes Road,
Blackpool

who continues to handle this part of the work for the English Goals Committee.

Offers for special tours should be sent to the Secretary:

Mrs. Betty Goode,
8, Knowle Road,
Stafford.

Visitors to this country who have offered their services in the teaching field are Mrs. Janet Khan, U.S.A., Miss Julie Smithies, U.S.A. and Mr. Ben Levy, Nairobi, Kenya.

S.O.S.!

A letter has been received from the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Salisbury in which they say. . . "Please send us as many travel teachers as possible. Teaching is very slow, and a new face is always welcome, not only amongst ourselves, but also with our precious few contacts!"

Who will be a "new face" in Salisbury?

Committee Meetings.

It is planned to hold all our committee meetings either in Goal Towns or towns where an Assembly has lapsed, and our meetings are fixed as follows:—

September 21st/22nd;
November 2nd/3rd;
December 28th/29th;
February 1st/2nd;
March 8th/9th;
April 12th/13th;
May 24th/25th.

Continued on page eleven

The August meeting was held in Ipswich, the September meeting will be held in Lincoln and the December meeting in York.

Friends who need the help of the committee urgently, are asked to try and get in their requests between or just before committee meetings to save delays in answers.

Dates for Your Diary.

Ipswich—Festival of Opportunity—20th—29th September.

Kendal—Weekend School—27th—29th September.

Birmingham—Teacher Training School—5th—6th October.

Bath—Weekend School—25th—27th October.

Another S.O.S.

Urgently needed, volunteers to help to man the Ipswich exhibition! Volunteers please contact the Secretary, Betty Goode, address as above.

For Meditation.

O People of Baha!

"O friends! Be not careless of the virtues with which ye have been endowed, neither be neglectful of your high destiny Ye are the stars of the heaven of understanding, the breeze that stirreth at the break of day, the soft-flowing waters upon which must depend the very life of all men, the letters inscribed upon His sacred scroll." "O people of Bahá! Ye are the breezes of spring that are wafted over the world. Through you We have adorned the world of being with the ornament of the knowledge of the Most Merciful. Through you the countenance of the world hath been wreathed in smiles, and the brightness of His light shone forth. Cling ye to the Cord of steadfastness in such wise that all vain imaginings may utterly vanish. Speed ye forth from the horizon of power, in the name of the Lord, the Unconstrained, and announce unto His servants, with wisdom and eloquence, the tidings of this Cause, whose splendour hath been shed upon the world of being"

Bahá'u'lláh

IRISH SUMMER SCHOOL.

Recorded Talks.

Anyone interested in buying tapes of the many talks given by Hand of the Cause Jalal Khazéh and Adib Taherzadeh should contact

Dr. Keith Munro,
Gransha Hospital,
Londonderry,
Northern Ireland.

Lost Property.

1 deep blue Cardigan—Adult.
1 white cotton cardigan—Child's.
1 yellow cotton cardigan—Child's.
1 yellow woolen cardigan—Child's.
1 pair of pale lemon silk gloves (long).
Several off-white child's socks.
1 ball pen—reddish brown—writes blue.

Apply to: Mrs. V. Morley,
41 Morehampton Road,
Dublin, 4.

WORLD CHILDRENS' DAY



The London Children's Bahá'í Class (sponsored by the National Children's Committee) remembered World Children's Day at 27, Rutland Gate on the morning of Sunday, June 16th, with special prayers and quotations which the children had learned for the occasion. An appropriate poster was on display showing children at Bahá'í Classes all over the world, and about fifty adults came to share the commemoration with them.

Afterwards, at about noon, everyone went to Regent's Park for a Picnic convened by Kensington-Chelsea Borough Assembly. The weather was fine and warm though a little cloudy and we found a very suitable large clearing near the boating lake and under a shady

tree. Blankets were spread on the ground and we all enjoyed a variety of Eastern and Western food and an abundance of good company. Each then followed his own pursuits, perhaps resting in a deck chair, walking around the park or taking part in the energetic ball games which were played with great enthusiasm by young and old.

The high-spirited gathering were later mustered into some sort of order for Mr. Djalili to take photographs, when it was very noticeable that everyone had a widely-smiling face.

This outing was thoroughly enjoyed by all the friends present and the children obviously had a great time. We even received a few enquiries from passers-by as to who we were!

TEACHER TRAINING WEEKEND SCHOOL

Dr. Johnson House, Room 44, Colmore Circus, Birmingham, 4. 5/6th, Oct. 1968.

Saturday, October 5th.

| | | |
|----------------------|--|------------------|
| 2.00 p.m. | Devotional | |
| 2.15 p.m.— 4.00 p.m. | "The Qualities of a Bahá'í Teacher" | Farhang Jahanpur |
| 4.00 p.m.— 4.30 p.m. | Tea Break | |
| 4.30 p.m.— 6.00 p.m. | "Preparation for Leading a Discussion Group" | Betty Reed |
| 6.00 p.m.— 8.00 p.m. | Supper Break | |
| 8.00 p.m.—10.00 p.m. | Workshops (arranged and supervised by Betty Reed). | |

Sunday, October 6th

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------|
| 9.30 a.m. | Devotional | |
| 10.00 a.m.—11.30 a.m. | "The Lecture" (covering preparation, techniques, question-answering, and different types of lecture) | Philip Hainsworth |
| 11.30 a.m.—11.45 a.m. | Coffee Break | |
| 11.45 a.m.— 1.00 p.m. | "Steadfastness in the Covenant" | Adib Taherzadeh |
| 1.00 p.m.— 2.30 p.m. | Lunch Break | |
| 2.30 p.m.— 3.30 p.m. | "The Presentation of the History of the Faith to Non-Bahá'ís" | Farhang Jahanpur |
| 3.30 p.m.— 4.30 p.m. | "The Spirit of the Bahá'í Administrative Order" | Adib Taherzadeh |

Enquiries to Lois Hainsworth (Sharaf, Church Road, Horsforth, Nr. Leeds, Yorkshire).
Tea and coffee will be available during the breaks.
Room 44 will be open from 11 a.m. on Saturday October 5th for the benefit of friends arriving early.



IRISH GOALS COMMITTEE

Larne R.D. and Bangor, and with travel teachers. Larne with an energetic

Continued in column three

The committee decided that the article on Travel teaching on Page 7 of the recent Bahá'í Journal was so excellent, that they decided to circularise all the communities asking them to consult on travel teaching on the basis of this article, at the next Feast.

Material for the next issue of the Journal to be in by 7th Oct., 1968, to—
Mr. J. Coates, Editor, 45 Overfield Rd.,
Fawdon, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 3AJ

21st MARCH, 1968 to 20th June, 1968 (inclusive)

| INCOME. | | £ | s. | d. | EXPENDITURE. | | £ | s. | d. |
|--------------------------------------|-------|--------|----|----|-----------------------|-------|--------|----|----|
| Donations:— | | | | | N.S.A.— | | | | |
| L.S.A's & Groups (56) | ..... | 751 | 8 | 6 | Travel | ..... | 269 | 14 | 0 |
| Individuals | ..... | 2089 | 14 | 4 | Office | ..... | 547 | 3 | 1 |
| | | | | | Telephone & Cables | ..... | 64 | 15 | 5 |
| | | 2841 | 2 | 10 | Postage & Stationery | ..... | 197 | 10 | 3 |
| Less Payments against Covenants..... | | 241 | 6 | 8 | Convention | ..... | 65 | 15 | 0 |
| | | | | | Journal | ..... | 234 | 11 | 7 |
| | | 2599 | 16 | 2 | Extraord. | ..... | 21 | 9 | 6 |
| Interest and Dividends | ..... | 45 | 7 | 2 | Auditor | ..... | 111 | 10 | 0 |
| Rent of Lands | ..... | 57 | 10 | 0 | A.A.T.C. | ..... | 53 | 10 | 3 |
| Sundry | ..... | 53 | 19 | 10 | N.T.T.C. | ..... | 120 | 14 | 3 |
| Excess expenditure over income | ..... | 298 | 3 | 9 | Other Home Committees | ..... | 363 | 4 | 5 |
| | | | | | Overseas Committees | ..... | 229 | 4 | 0 |
| | | | | | Pioneer Committee | ..... | 573 | 10 | 0 |
| | | | | | Other Committees | ..... | 24 | 11 | 9 |
| | | | | | Youth Committee | ..... | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | Sundry | ..... | 18 | 8 | 5 |
| | | | | | P. & P. Committee | ..... | 109 | 5 | 0 |
| | | £3,054 | 16 | 11 | | | £3,054 | 16 | 11 |

Aberdeen, Bath, Bedford, Belfast, Brent, Brighton, Brighton Children, Burnley, Cambridge, Camden, Canterbury, Cardiff, Castlereagh R.D., Cheadle, Chorley, Croydon, Dublin, Dunlaoghaire, Eccles, Epsom, Exeter, Hammersmith, Harringay, Hounslow, Hove, Ipswich, Inverness, Jersey, Kensington & Chelsea, Leicester, Lewis, Limerick, Malta, Manchester, Motherwell, Nelson, N. Berwick, Norwich, Nottingham, Orkney, Peterboro', Portsmouth, Richmond, Richmond Youth, Salisbury, Sheffield, Southport, Swansea, Swinton, Torbay, Wandsworth, Westminster, Winchester, Wokingham R.D. Oxford, Havering.