

Bahá'í Journal

Jr. V. Homell

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BAHA'I YEAR 127

JULY/AUGUST 1970

LONG CHERISHED HOPE OF BELOVED GUARDIAN AT LAST FULFILLED.

The following exciting news has been released by the Universal House of Justice:—

"JOYFULLY ANNOUNCE BAHÁ'Í WORLD ATTAIN—MENT CONSULTATIVE STATUS UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL THEREBY FULFILLING LONG CHERISHED HOPE BELOVED GUARDIAN AND WORLD CENTRE GOAL NINE YEAR PLAN. SUSTAINED PERSISTENT EFFORTS MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVES BAHÁ'Í INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY UNITED NATIONS. DEVOTED SUPPORT BAHÁ'Í COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT WORLD, FINALLY REWARDED. SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT ADDS PRESTIGE INFLUENCE RECOGNITION EVER ADVANCING FAITH BAHÁ'U'LLÁH. OFFERING PRAYERS GRATITUDE HOLY SHRINES."

"...The motion to approve our application was made by the United States and seconded by Norway and the British Isles. We also wish to report that the Foreign Office of the Government of India instructed their Mission at United Nations to support our application..."

The Universal House of Justice

OCEANIC AND CONTINENTAL CONFERENCES.

Details of the eight Conferences have been announced by The Universal House of Justice:—

North Atlantic Oceanic Conference

Reykjavik, Iceland - September 3-5, 1971.

Caribbean Conference

Kingston, Jamaica - May 21-23, 1971.

Continental Conference for South America

La Paz, Bolivia - August 14-16, 1970

South Pacific Oceanic Conference Suva, Fiji Islands — May 21-23, 1971.

North Pacific Oceanic Conference

Sapporo, Japan - September 3-5, 1971.

Oceanic Conference of the South China Seas

Indian Ocean Conference

Rose Hill, Mauritius - August 14-16, 1970

Continental Conference for West and Central Africa Monrovia, Liberia — January 1-3, 1971.

All believers are encouraged to attend as many of the Conferences as possible. A particularly large number is expected at the Icelandic Conference from the British Isles, Canada, the United States and all the countries on the European Mainland. We hope shortly to be able to give details of charter flights from London and Glasgow. The inclusive cost will be in the region of £100, but this will depend on the number of people wishing to participate.

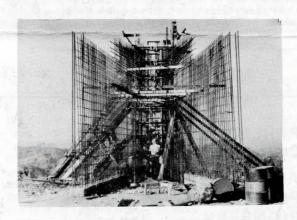
PROVISIONAL BOOKINGS

It is important that those thinking of attending the Reykjavik Conference should write at once to the NSA Secretary indicating:

- (a) the number of seats required
- (b) which airport is preferred
- (c) whether, if it were possible, you would wish to spend some extra days of holiday in Iceland.

We are already booking some hotels rooms, so please write soon.

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT GOALS - THE PANAMA TEMPLE.



"We are happy to report that excellent progress is being made in the early stages of the construction of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár in Panama, and there is every reason to feel assured that this historic project, blessed by a contribution of \$1500 from the beloved Guardian, Shoghi Effendi himself, and now one of the most important international goals of the Nine Year Plan, will be completed before Ridván, 1972.

Estimates now in hand indicate that the total cost of this project will approximate one million dollars. Of this sum, about \$161,000 was disbursed as of 31 October, 1969, and the schedule of payments that must be met monthly during 1970 will aggregate about \$500,000 with the remaining costs to be met in 1971.

As of 31 October, 1969, total contributions from all sources, including \$70,000 from the Bahá'í Innational Fund, \$85,000 from National Spiritual Assemblies and \$34,000 from Local Assemblies, individuals, and other sources aggregated \$189,000. It is therefore clear that a generous outpouring of contributions must be made without delay by the entire Bahá'í world, in a spirit of universal participation.

We appeal to...the friends for generous support of this glorious enterprise through early contributions, and transmit at frequent intervals during 1970 what sums are available for the Panama Temple...."

The Universal House of Justice

It will be remembered that in our last appeal for funds for this project, the British Baha'i Community actually exceeded the goal set. This year, in spite of the above appeal from the Universal House of Justice, we have had to reduce our pledge to this all-important goal as the funds have not yet started to roll in and the year is almost half gone.

You may send your increased contributions to the National Fund or make a special earmarked donation for the Temple direct to National Treasurer.

National Spiritual Assembly.

"THE BAHÁ'Í WORLD" VOLUME X111.

"We are happy to tell you that this important volume dedicated to the beloved Guardian is now bound ready for despatch. It covers the nine years from 1954 to 1963, which witnessed both the passing of Shoghi Effendi and the completion and triumph of his Ten Year Crusade..."

The Universal House of Justice

This long-awaited beautiful volume will be available at £6.6.0. It contains 1228 pages of which over 140 are devoted to the Guardian with many photographs.

Send your orders to the Bahá'í Publishing Trust now.

PARLEZ - VOUS FRANCAIS COURAMMENT.

AN URGENT APPEAL FOR FRENCH - SPEAKING PIONEERS.

On the 14th May, the Universal House of Justice made an urgent appeal to eleven National Spiritual Assemblies to try to locate as many French-speaking pioneers as possible. They referred to "the shortness of time and the urgency of the situation". At least 84 pioneers are required in 28 countries. These countries range from the dark and mysterious Central Africa to the exotic S.W. Pacific; from the lovely islands of the Indian Ocean to the sun-drenched Caribbean, and from the unsophisticated Society Islands to the swinging centres of modern Europe. Here is a wonderful pioneer challenge for you, whatever be your taste.

Etudiez las liste au-dessous et si vous pouvez offrir, écrivez le président due Comité des Buts d'Outre-mer.

Philip Hainsworth, "Treen", Allerton Park, Leeds LS7 4ND.

AFRICA

Cameroon Republic Chad

Central African Republic Congo, Brazzaville Congo, Kinshasha

Gabon Dahomey Niger Sénégal

Afar & Isa (Fr. Somalia)

Guinea

INDIAN OCEAN

Malagasy Republic

Réunion Island

AMERICAN CONTINENT

Canada

Haiti

Leeward, Windward and Virgin Islands

French Guiana

SOUTH WEST PACIFIC OCEAN

New Caledonia

Society Islands, Marquesas Islands

Tuamotu Archipelago.

EUROPE

Belgium France
Corsica Luxembourg
Switzerland

What a choice! Some offers, even from vital pioneer posts have already been received; we have to look at them all, the need is so urgent, the task so important. Perhaps you should write today.

MESSAGE TO YOUTH SPRING CONFERENCE

CONVEY ATTENDANT YOUTH SPRING CONFERENCE DELIGHT RECEIPT THEIR CABLE. EAGERNESS BAHA'I YOUTH DEDICATE ENERGIES PROMOTION FAITH BEST AUGURY FUTURE CAUSE, FOUNDATION SUCCESSFUL INDIVIDUAL LIVES; ASSURE LOVING PRAYERS HOLY SHRINE.

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

BAHÁ'ÍS AND POLITICS.

During the recent political elections it was reported that some of the believers were in doubt as to their responsibilities as citizens and even discussed the issues involved at Feasts and other meetings. We feel it is appropriate at this time to share with you some excerpts from a recent communication from the Universal House of Justice which should clarify the issues involved and allay all doubts.

"...In the midst of the storm and stress of the battles of selfish interests being waged about them, stand the followers of the Most Great Name, their sight attracted to the rising sun of God's Holy Cause, their hearts welded together in a bond of true unity with all the children of men, and their voices raised in a universal song of praise to the Glory of God and the oneness of mankind, calling on their fellow-men to forget and forgo their differences and join them in obedience and service to God's Holy Command in this Day.

The Army of the Cause, advancing at the bidding of the Lord, to conquer the hearts of men, can never be defeated, but its rate of advance can be slowed down by acts of unwisdom and ignorance on the part of its supporters. We are writing you this letter to help in clarifying some of the issues that have, in the past, blurred the vision of some of the believers, and caused them to commit errors of judgement which have retarded the progress of the Faith in their countries.

PRINCIPLES OF NON-INTERFERENCE

The principles in the Writings are clear, but usually it is when these principles are applied that questions arise. In all cases where the correct course of action is not clear believers should consult their National Spiritual Assembly who will exercise their judgement in advising the friends on the best course to follow.

One of these issues, and by far the most important, is a lack of appreciation of the implications of the Bahá'í principle of non-interference in political affairs. We find that 'Abdu'l-Bahá and Shoghi Effendi have given us clear and convincing reasons why we must uphold this principle. These reasons are summarized below for the study and deepening of the friends. It is our hope that these observations will not only help the friends to intelligently follow the holy teachings on this matter, but will help them to explain the Baha'i attitude to those who may question its wisdom and usefulness:

The Faith of God is the sole source of salvation for mankind today. The true cause of the ills of humanity is its disunity. No matter how perfect may be the machinery devised by the leaders of men for the political unity of the world, it will still not provide the antidote to the poison sapping the vigour of present-day society. These ills can be cured only through the instrumentality of God's Faith. There are many well-wishers of mankind who devote their efforts to relief-work and charity and to the material well-being of man, but only Baha'is can do the work which God most wants done. When we devote ourselves to the work of the Faith we are doing a work which is the greatest aid and only refuge for a needy and divided world.

The Bahá'í'Community is a world-wide organisation seeking to establish true and universal peace on earth. If a Bahá'í works for one political party to overcome another it is a negation of the very spirit of the Faith. Membership in any political party,

therefore, necessarily entails repudiation of some or all of the principles of peace and unity proclaimed by Bahá'u'lláh. As 'Abdu'l-Bahá stated: "Our party is God's party; we do not belong to any party".

If a Bahá'í were to insist on his right to support a certain political party he could not deny the same degree of freedom to other believers. This would mean that within the ranks of the Faith, whose primary mission is to unite all men as one great family under God, there would be Bahá'ís opposed to each other. Where, then, would be the example of unity and harmony which the world is seeking?

If the institutions of the Faith, God forbid, became involved in politics, the Baha'is would find themselves arousing antagonism instead of love. If they took one stand in one country, they would be bound to change the views of the people in another country about the aims and purposes of the Faith. By becoming involved in political disputes, the Baha'is instead of changing the world or helping it, would themselves be lost and destroyed. The world situation is so confused and moral issues which were once clear have become so mixed up with selfish and battling factions, that the best way Baha'is can serve the highest interests of their country and the cause of true salvation for the world, is to sacrifice their political pursuits and affiliations and wholeheartedly and fully support the divine system of Bahá'u'lláh.

The Faith is not opposed to the true interests of nation, nor is it against any party or faction. It holds aloof from all controversies and transcends them all, while enjoining upon its followers loyalty to government and a sane patriotism. This love for their country the Bahá'is show by serving its wellbeing in their daily activity, or by working in the administrative channels of the government instead of through party politics or in diplomatic or political posts. The Baha'is may, indeed are encouraged to, mix with all strata of society, with the highest authorities and with leading personalities as well as with the mass of the people, and should bring the knowledge of the Faith to them; but in so doing they should strictly avoid becoming identified, or identifying the Faith, with political pursuits and party programmes.

So vital is this principle of non-interference in political matters, which must govern the acts and words of Bahá'ís in every land, that Shoghi Effendi has written that "Neither the charges which the uninformed and the malicious may be led to bring against them, nor the allurements of honours and rewards" would ever induce the true believers to deviate from this path, and that their words and conduct must proclaim that the followers of Bahá'u'lláh "are actuated by no selfish ambition, that they neither thirst for power, nor mind any wave of unpopularity, of distrust or criticism, which a strict adherence to their standards might provoke".

"Difficult and delicate though be our task," he continues, "the sustaining power of Bahá'u'lláh and of His Divine guidance will assuredly assist us, if we follow steadfastly in His way, and strive to uphold the integrity of His laws. The light of His redeeming grace, which no earthly power can obscure, will if we persevere, illuminate our path, as we steer our course amid the snares and pitfalls of a troubled age and will enable us to discharge our duties in a manner that would resound to the glory and honour of His blessed Name..."

The Universal House of Justice

ATTENDANCE OF NON-BAHÁ'ÍS AT A NINE-TEEN DAY FEAST

The following extract from a recent letter from the Universal House of Justice to an individual believer is shared with the friends as it deals with a situation which from time to time faces many of us.

"...The rule that only Bahá'is may take part in Nineteen Day Feasts is not a new one, indeed it was often reiterated by the beloved Guardian. However, when a non-Bahá'i'does appear at a Feast he should not be asked to leave; rather the Assembly should omit the consultative part of the Feast, and the non-Bahá'i should be made welcome. Of course, if the non-Bahá'i swell known to the Bahá'is and no hurt feelings would be caused, he might be asked to retire during the consultative part. In general, however, it is much better to avoid such problems where possible,...

During the period of consultation the Bahá'is should be able to enjoy perfect freedom to express their views on the work of the Cause, unembarrassed by the feeling that all they are saying is being heard by someone who has not accepted Bahá'u'lláh and who might, thereby, gain a very distorted picture of the Faith, It would also be very embarrassing for any sensitive non-Bahá'i to find himself plunged into the midst of a discussion of the details of a Bahá'i Community of which he is not a part.

The Universal House of Justice

BAHÁ'Í PUBLISHING TRUST - NOTICE

We have received a letter from the American Publishing Trust stating that they are still receiving individual orders for books etc., from Bahá'ís in this country.

Would the Friends please note that they do not wish to deal with individuals direct and that all orders should go through our Publishing Trust.

We are always willing to obtain any book or pamphlet the Friends require and we do stock all those which have a ready sale, and if not in stock we will certainly get them if asked to do so.

EDITORIAL.

This issue of the 'Bahá'i' Journal' has something of a new look. Whilst the Editorial Committee wish to maintain the liveliness and good content which have always characterised the 'Journal' we wish to experiment a little in presentation to make it ever more readable. The great problem today is one of communication; there is so much to read and so much of the printed word, the picture, the slogan, continually assault our eyes that we have become highly selective in what we 'inwardly digest'. It is therefore our wish to present all our material with the dignity and taste it merits, at the same time keeping it easy to read and absorb. Any suggestions or comments will be gratefully received. Articles and reports submitted for inclusion in the 'Journal' should be typed, double-spaced and ten words per line if possible. Photographs must be half-plate, glossy and well contrasted. Neither articles nor photographs will be returned unless a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

It should be remembered that the 19 day Feast Newsletter is for all items of local and temporary interest but that the 'Baha'i' Journal' is for material of permanent value. The reports and articles submitted should therefore reflect this general principle.

DEADLINE DATE

The deadline date for the next issue of the 'Journal' is 9th September 1970.

Please send your material to:—
The Editor
Lois Hainsworth,
'TREEN', ALLERTON PARK,
LEEDS LS7 4ND

COMMEMORATION CENTENARY OF THE MARTYRDOM OF THE PUREST BRANCH.



It was the morning of 23 June 1970, the hundredth anniversary of the tragic death of Mirzá Mihdí, the Purest Branch. Hand of the Cause, Paul Haney, and members of the Universal House of Justice had forgathered at the Barracks in the prison city of 'Akká to offer prayers in the cell which Bahá'u'lláh had occupied for two years, two months and five days following His arrival in 'Akká in 1868. The scene of the Martyrdom was also visited and a prayer chanted there.

Immediately afterwards the party proceeded to Bahji where they joined others serving at the World Centre and nearly eighty pilgrims from many countries. All walked around the Ḥaram-i-Aqdas and down the path to the Most Holy Shrine. There the Tablet of Visitation was chanted.

Later that same day, in the waning moments of the 19th of Núr, the friends assembled at the twin monuments of the Purest Branch and his saintly Mother, Navváb, to conclude the program commemorating the centenary of the Martyrdom. Prayers and verses appropriate to the occasion were read and chanted. In our hearts we know that one day all humanity would surely understand the meaning of the event the Bahá'iś were at this moment observing, one day there would be universal understanding of the significance of the prayer of Bahá'u'lláh: "I have, O my Lord, offered up that which Thou has given me, that Thy servants may be quickened, and that all that dwell on earth be united". And so it was possible in this sacred spot to blot out from our consciousness the rumble of the outside world and to fix our thoughts on the event that brought us together, praying all the while that, God willing, the promised redemption of mankind would not be far removed from our time.

The Universal House of Justice

OUR HONOUR AND OUR CHALLENGE

What is our Budget?

(a) At the beginning of each Bahá'í' year, the National Spiritual Assembly makes its basic policy decision and then, on the basis of past experience, estimates the likely cost for the year. All factors are taken into account — new members on the Assembly and its Committees and the changed expenses pattern; any new Committee structure calling for different expenditure needs; the rising costs of travel and living; changing overseas demands pioneer priorities; the relative emphasis to be paid to travel, teachers, schools, exhibitions, and so on; all these influence the estimated requirements.

(b) From past experience, and in anticipation of an increased giving capacity as the community grows in size, the National Assembly estimates what the Fund may expect, with sacrifice, from direct individual and Local Assembly contributions, refund of Income Tax from Covenants, and interest and dividends from investments.

(c) Invariably the estimated income is far less than the estimated expenditure, so one by one, each item is cut and pruned even below what is thought to be the basic minimum, and then the budget is set.

(d) The final budget obtained this year is £26,150.

Can this Budget be shown simply?

Yes, there are four main headings under which the expenditure will occur.

1 National administrative expenses handled directly by the National Assembly. These include postage, stationery, cables, telephone, secretarial and administrative staff, travelling, bank charges, audit and legal fees, production and distribution of the 'Bahá'i' Journal', Convention and Teaching Conference, a contribution to the publication of the Guardian's messages and certain small but expected extra expenses. This extensive list of items was shown in the Budget last year at £9,240; they actually cost £9,460. For this year, allowing for sundry cost increases and some changes in the administrative set-up, increased postal, stationery and printing charges, etc., we are budgetting for £1,000 more than last year, i.e. £10,530.

2 The total budget for the 19 National Committees is £10,845. This includes £1,200 for Proclamation and the Exhibition and allows for two Goals Committees in Ireland. Even so, some of the Committees receive half of that allocated to them last year. 3 The running, repairs and maintenance of the National and Dublin Ḥaziratu'l-Quds and revision of the Articles of Associa—tion along the lines suggested by the Universal House of Justice will total £2,975.

4 The donations made by the National Spiritual Assembly on behalf of the British Community to six overseas funds have been reduced by £500 and now total £1,800.

How shall we pay for this?

As we started this year with a nil cash balance and we expect Tax refunds, interest, dividends, rents and profits on sales to realise £4,570, to raise cash on bequests and investments to make another £5,000, we shall need to obtain £16,580 from the local Assemblies Groups and individual believers. This will be in addition to the £2,750 required to raise our contribution of £1,250 to the £4,000 we have set as a target for the International Fund. All this in addition to the urgent appeal for funds for the Panama Temple which appears on page 1. This means that over £19,000 needs to contributed if we are to achieve our Budget.

Last year over £12,140 was given to the National Fund indirect contributions, so an increase of 50% is required to meet our needs.

What is the current position?

It is very serious indeed. Whilst we need a 50% increase on the year we have had, over a comparable period of last year, a 50% decrease!

This makes the task so much more difficult and as stated by the National Treasurer in her letter of the 29th June, we may reach a situation where bills and wages cannot be paid.

What is the reason?

(a) It may be that the friends did not all know that Betty Goode, the National Treasurer, lives at:

8 Knowle Road, Stafford.

(b) It may be that as the friends made a wonderful effort and contributed in the latter part of last year extraordinarily well to the International Fund, they have depleted their resources.

(c) It may be that you were all waiting to hear how the work was going and how the Budget was being arranged.

(d) It may well be that the believers did not realise just how serious and desperate the situation was, and is likely to be, for many months ahead.

What is the National Assembly doing about it?

We are sharing this news with you so that you know what our Budget is; you have heard what our plans are and how we have pledged the Community to achieve the goals by 1972. We will continue to keep you fully informed of our income and expenditure, if possible by a more easily understandable method than in the past. We shall make regular appeals to keep the needs clearly before you. We shall keep our expenditure down to the absolute minimum. We shall ask our members to report on the situation personally to you when they visit your community or speak at schools and conferences. We seek your prayers and support. What more can we do?

Shall we cut down our Budget and not achieve our goals? Shall we appeal to the Universal House of Justice for help? Shall we seek friends who will guarantee bigger and bigger overdraft facilities?

We can put place the position simply before you. The answer lies deep in the heart of every believer; we all know the story of the spring of water, yet 5/- per week from every adult believer would reach our target. There are those to whom 5/- every single week is a relatively large sum of money, but how many sweets or cigarettes does it represent? There are others who pay £5 per week or even £15 per week in Income Tax alone, so really the target is not beyond the powers of the friends to reach.

A message just received from the Universal House of Justice has some most pertinent points in this context. They refer to the new plans for the administrative developments as

"...a clear proof of the advance of the British Baha'i Community towards the glorious destiny which the beloved Guardian promised them they could attain. Whatever modifications you may find necessary as the new plan develops, the friends throughout the British Isles should regard with joy, fully worthy of their support and indeed a sign of Divine confirmation on all their strenuous and devoted labours..."

Do you wish your money to go to the Panama Temple, or to the Universal House of Justice, or to help our own Temple in Europe? Would you prefer it to be used solely for teaching or do you demonstrate your confidence in your National Assembly by making your donation simply to the National Fund?

The choice is all yours but, dear friends, for the sake of the work of the Cause in these Islands, please make a decision to do some-

thing right now to help the National Treasurer to meet the Community's debts.

Thank you.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

"The fact that only we, the Bahá'is can contribute financially to the Cause is both our honour and our challenge."

The Universal House of Justice

SALES COMMITTEE

The Sales Committee is always ready to assist in any Teaching or Proclamation project by supplying posters, prayer-cards, slides postcards or Bahá'í interest, besides other material such as ringstones, special stationery, lapel badges and many other items detailed in the Stock lists sent out to Local Assembly and Group Secretaries in April. A copy of this list can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Secretary of the British Bahá'i'Sales Committee, 44 Highbank, Brighton BN1 5GB.

Would the friends please note that because of heavy customs duty levied on certain items that the following items have had to be increased in price:

1 The Baha'i' Victory Chorus L.P. is now £2.10.0 per copy.

2 Enamelled lapel badges are now 3/6d each Tie pins 8/6d each Tie stauts 11/0d each Fixed screw type badges 13/6d each

FARM PICNICS 1970

Come and enjoy the country air at the last of the farm picnics summer. It will be held as usual at Manor Farm, on

September 6th.

We are 4 miles off the A1 and 60 miles north of London. When you get to Gt. Paxton look for the church, we are 50 yards from it. Wear what you like and please keep children and pets under control.

Please bring many friends and also your own food, music etc. Tea supplied free all day long. Come early. All most welcome. The Cardell Family, Manor Farm, Great Paxton, St. Neots, Hunts.

NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE

Can the friends please help the Youth Committee to find suitable premises in which to hold Winter Schools, Spring Conferences and other national youth gatherings? The most likely places may be schools and hostels and should have kitchens, a dining room; a lecture room and dormitories if those attending will need to stay overnight. It is very important that these places should be reasonably inexpensive so that as many of the youth as possible are able to attend.

The first International Youth Winter School is being held this year in Salzburg, Austria from 25th December 1970 to 3rd January 1971. Further details will be published in due course.

The Weekend Planning Committee of the NYC has produced a programme on the subject of Ridvan and includes a devotional, readings, a short introduction to 'The Dawnbreakers', a quiz and suggestions for evening activities. Anyone requiring a copy should send a stamped addressed envelope to the secretary of the NYC, Lois Chinn, 7 Dicey Avenue, London N.W.2., to whom all communications should be addressed. Other members of our committee are Ruhi Afnan, Shomais Afnan, Vivian Bartlett, Barney Leigh, Elizabeth Morley and Shahram Mottahed, who will all be happy to hear your ideas and recommendations should you see them at any time.

COMMUNITY NEWS

BELFAST: Linda Marshall's visit to Belfast was a shining example of a Baha'i being 'as unconstrained as the wind'. While in Northern Ireland she stayed with Jane Villiers-Stuart, who, with Lisbeth Reeves, arranged a full and rewarding programme. Linda visited Government House, where she was asked many questions about her Faith by the Governor, and the Lord Mayor at City Hall. She spoke with simplicity and wisdom on U.T.V. and B.B.C. Television and Radio, she addressed meetings at schools and visited hospitals and spoke at a crowded public meeting in the Kensington Hotel. She

opened the New Age Exhibition in Belfast for which there was full scale publicity in the Press. A steady stream of interested enquirers attended the evening activities.

Editorial Note: In addition to Belfast, Linda Marshall visited other communities in England, Wales and Ireland and she has asked the 'Journal' editor to express her gratitude to all the friends she met during her trip.

DUMBARTON: This Ridván was especially joyous for the Dumbarton Bahá'is for we saw the formation of our first local assembly. On March 22 we held a very successful party with a distinctly international flavour. Guests included Bahá'is from several parts of England and Scotland as well as non-Baha'i friends representing eleven nations. A second and equally successful party was held on May 2.

ORKNEY ISLANDS: Visitors have been few and far between so far to the Islands this year, so the friends were especially happy to have visits from the Shepherds (indefatigable supporters of the Isles) and Ernest Gregory, Board Member for the Islands.

The occasion of a marriage in May between Colleen King, pioneer to Kirkwall, and Ian MacLeod, one of our Island believers, brought good publicity in the local and Aberdeen papers. Over seventy guests were present and many said how impressed they were at the beauty of the readings and the simplicity of the service. This is the second Bahá'í wedding we have had in a year and, as with the first, was the cause of invaluable teaching and goodwill. Colleen and Ian spent their honeymoon in Shetland and visited the five believers there. This wedding was also the means of bringing to us Marion Hofman, who conducted the marriage ceremony, arriving one hour before it was due to begin after a breathless dash by train, car and specially chartered plane!

Other events in the past months include a four day exhibition, entitled 'This Century of Radiance', composed of more than thirty posters made by the friends and which, while not well-attended, caused good publicity and comment; the arrival of pioneer Tony Pirkis, who saved cur Assembly from lapsing at Ridván; the departure of Adele Senior who worked so hard for the Cause in these Islands and is deeply missed; continued good attendance of contacts at weekly firesides; a total of sixty people attending the celebrations of Naw-Ruz and the and the Ridván Feast; some of the friends attending Teaching Conference and Convention; continued free publicity in the local paper, and news of the arrival of Doreen Holdsworth in August who has been offered the job of educational psychologist for all the Orkney Island schools.

This Bahá'i' year our sister Island of Shetland is to have her Local Spiritual Assembly. We pray that the wonderful spirit which animated the friends to arise to help bring ours into being will prevail again and Shetland, our most remote and in many ways most spiritual island in Britain, will also be blessed by your prayers and visits. At no extra cost you can stop off in Orkney on your way up or down and we would just love to see you.

SHREWSBURY: With one more declaration and the arrival of three pioneers, the Shrewsbury Local Assembly is assured for the coming Ridvan. Due to the efforts of the friends and Godgiven opportunities, the Faith is well known by the 300,000 inhabitants of Shropshire. Two thousand invitations have been sent out for our next public meeting.

SOUTHPORT: Friday, 12 June 1970 saw the end of an era, with the last fireside at the home of John and Lou Turner. With John and Lou pioneering to Cork, this last occasion was viewed with mixed feelings — joy and sorrow. Joy — because thirty-seven people, including twelve non-Bahá'í's, gathered to hear Lou talk of her experiences on Pilgrimage. Sorrow — because for over four years the friends have enjoyed meetings here. Everyone who has ever felt the spirit of the Turner's "Abdu'l-Bahá Room' will join with the Southport friends in wishing the Turners good luck in Ireland. Firesides in Southport continue in the same house, but the ground floor flat, at the home of Phillip and Ruth Gillibrand. Let us pray that the results of the last four years continue.

STOCKPORT: Our Group held their first ever One Day School on June 13, when thirty-seven friends, including three seekers, attended to hear Philip Hainsworth, Jane Harding and George Bowers speak on 'Putting Unity into the Community'. We

were lucky to have with us Board Members Joan and Ernest Gregory. Our first declaration followed this meeting. We would like to thank our speakers and those who attended for making the school a success.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October

20

8 September Feast of 'Izzat
12 - 13 September Overseas Goals Committee, London
18 - 20 September NSA meets in London
27 September Feast of Mashiyyat
16 September Feast of 'Ilm
17 - 18 October Overseas Goals Committee, London

BIRTHDAY OF THE BÁB

PROCLAMATION!

Dizzy 'Turns On' London

America's 'Ambassador of Jazz', Dizzy Gillespie, the world famous trumpeter, became a Baha'i' in the United States two years ago. In early April he arrived in Britain with his quintet for a two-week engagement at a London Nightclub. One evening a party of fourteen Baha'i's went to the club to hear Dizzy's music — he was, as ever, in tremendous form. To the audible delight of our table he announced his famous composition 'A Night in Tunisia' as 'A Night in....Haifa!!!' On another evening he greeted a rather bemused night club audience with "Allah'u'Abha friends — that's a beautiful saying and pretty soon the whole world's gonna know it". What the customers thought of that, as they sipped their martinis, is anybody's guess.

The most momentous event of Dizzy's stay in London was his television appearance on the B.B.C.2 programme 'Line-Up'. In reply to the interviewer's questions about his music he insisted on speaking for about ten minutes on the Faith. He was also interviwed by the Press, gaining more invaluable publicity for the Cause. His contribution to the Proclamation of the Cause in in Britain is incalculable.

A fine report of a lunch-time meeting with him appeared in the July issue of 'She'.

Phillip Hinton.

BAHA'I PUBLISHING TRUST

The Publishing Trust would like to draw the attention of the Friends to the following price alterations which the Indian Publishing Trust have regretfully found it necessary to make due to the overall increase in costs.

B44. 'The New Garden'. now 6s. 6d. L14. 'Bahá'i'Message', now 10 for 2/6d. L60 'Second Coming of Shri Krishna', now 4d. P35. 'I Found God', now 8d.

P35. 'I Found God', now 8d.
P37. 'This Radiant Age', now 1/9d.
P45. 'Human Happiness', now 1/3d
P46. 'The Bahá'í Community', now 1/9d.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions 1.

What is described by 'Abdu'l-Baha as "Abhorred, blamed and rejected by God...unclean, amaldorous, disagreeable and vulgar... by degrees injurious..."?

Questions 2

During what hours may we say the 'noonday' prayer?

Question 3

Where can we find some power and vitality which is as yet unknown?

Question 4

Who are 'The Champions of Victory'?

Question 5

When did the Bahá'ís of the world unite in prayer for the regeneration of the world?

International News

"WORLD WIDE NEWS" was the heading of the last selection in the 'Journal' of news from other lands and this appeared after the Ridván messages in the June 1969 issue. Since that time the Faith has advanced on a world front so much that it is impossible to bring our readers fully up-to-date with all the event. Many believers and Assemblies have written asking for more overseas news and a special section will be devoted to this subject in every issue of the 'Journal'.

VIETNAM AND THE UNITED STATES

Recently these countries, so closely linked in the eyes of the world, have come together on the writer's table in competition for the place of honour in producing some of the most exciting news. Extracts from cables from the **United States** tell us one story:

February 26: "...first of five Bahá'i Conferences on Education scheduled as part of Bahá'i observance of U.N. International Education Year...attended by nearly 1,000 Bahá'i adults and youth..."

March 10: "...report attainment goal 2,700 localities set for next Ridván potential assemblies number 90. Sense impending break-through Southland...27 declared Bogalusa (Louisiana) within two hours..."

March 10: "Further to earlier message Bogalusa declarations total 60"

March 24: "Three hundred believers...preparing selves heroic action pursuit mass conversion..."

March 25: "Frogmore Conference just ended occasion dramatic accelleration irreversible momentum process southland. 15 mass teaching targets selected addition (two places) where expansion continues. Pioneer travel teachers arose heroically from among new declarants to open target teaching immediately.... outpouring material sacrifices. Frogmore clergyman pillar local community joined Faith; Indian believers arose teach Seminoles."

March 27: (letter) "We are happy to report the achievement of one of the goals of the Nine Year Plan for the United States, namely, the recognition of Bahá'i' Holy Days in all 48 States of Continental United States

April 9: "Localities now number 2744, potential new Assemblies 95...only 82 additional commitments needed complete all pioneer assignments..."

Convention Report -223 foreign pioneer goals filled; 79 additional Assemblies; 370 new localities opened - in one year.

May 5: "...1500 (at Convention) attainment 519 local Assemblies 2779 localities...adopted with enthusiastic support delegates two million dollar budget plus one hundred thousand dollars special Panama Fund..."

Can this saga of achievement be matched by VIETNAM?

March 2: "...February, 1970, saw the enrollment of over 6800 new believers. This is nearly equal to the total number of enrollments for the entire previous year. 5800 of the new believers are Mountagnards, highland people..."

April 9: "In addition to 6800...Feb, now joyously report another 9000 new believers for March..."

Note: Nine Year Plan goals include 400 LSAs, raise number of localities to 900.

April 26: "...Number spiritual assemblies now total 459, communities 1270, believers (almost) 95,000...sixth national Convention opened...attendance 83 delegates..."

Bolivia Goals include: 600 Local Spiritual Assemblies; open at least 1200 localities, Last Ridván they had achieved 273 Assemblies and had exceeded the localities goal in 1968. This Ridván they cabled "...approximately 400 Assemblies formed, 2500 enrolled..."

Burma

February 25: The sixth Local Haziratu'l-Quds, located in Layde Village, about 120 miles from Rangoon, was opened on February 21st. Thirty-two friends from Rangoon, Daidanaw, Twante, Thamaing and North Okkalapa joined the friends in Layde and their guests from surrounding villages.

Canada

April 9: "The French-speaking representation in the Bahá'í Faith in Canada has...more than doubled in the past nine months..."

"This year, in Canada, a group of young Bahá'i' artists and designers have put together an animated "Brief" as a vehicle for the Message of Bahá'u'lláh. It utilizes film, sound and sides as well as traditional art forms, and includes a mobile environment. A seven-person team of Bahá'i'youth accompany it to act as hosts..."

May 4: "700 friends Convention thrilled...work progress Cause God...already seen example youth. Recommended unprecedented contribution goal this year half million. 25 pioneer offers...25000 dollars Convention pledges and contributions..."

Chile

March 17:

Ecuador

El Salvador

"Jovfully we announce the opening of two new Mapuche Indian Reservations to the Faith. One of the reservations, Pancul, now has fourteen believers an achievement due to the dedicated spirit of Miss Katharine Meyer, Pioneer..." News flash from Convention announced that the goals of increase in number of localities and number of new assemblies have already been surpassed and "...pledge renewed efforts further increase remaining years Plan..."

Colombia Goal of localities was achieved in 1965 and that of twenty-seven spiritual assemblies was accomplished in 1968; in 1969 there were forty-one assemblies formed and the number of localities during the Plan nearly quadrupled, yet at Convention this year it was announced that eighty-two local assemblies were formed and "convinced accomplishment ambitious plans immediate future..."

Cuba Cable from Convention announced "Gathered during annual Ridván celebration assurance firmness".

Bahman Ishráqi, a Persian pioneer who works with the Salasacas Indians, joined a group of travelling teachers for a week-end trip to Esmeraldas, the fertile mass-teaching territory recently opened to the Faith. He was so elated with the teaching successes that he cancelled his bus ticket to remain two more days; his friends moved on saying, "Don't leave, Bahman, until you have fifty believers". One hour before his bus left at the end of his extra time he had enrolled forty-eight when someone from the third floor of a nearby building called out, "What are you looking for, young man?" As the bus went an hour later he had accomplished his task!

A five day school was held in Atacames for thirty-five pioneers and teachers who then divided into teams and went to Esmeraldas. Twenty-eight new localities were opened and 1003 believers enrolled.

A series of Proclamation meetings were launched in conjunction with nine one-day Institutes and in six of these the proceedings opened with Public Meetings. A total of 1355 people attended, 2300 handbills were distributed and 428 seekers signed up for a correspondence course. The Goals for this country included the raising of local assemblies to nine and localities to 27 with at least one locality in each Department. As Convention opened they cabled, "We have 11 Assemblies, 14 Groups, 23 Isolated centres (Total 48 localities). As it closed they cabled, "Most united Convention history this country recommends achieve 27 Assemblies, 81 localities, Assembly each Department, by Ridván 1972. 45 Bahá'is committed to personal teaching goals."

Finland The National Spiritual Assembly announced, "We wish a heartfelt welcome to Tuula and Valde

Nyman and their five children...Valde the father belongs to a minority group, the Gypsies...'

Guatemala

Goals include the raising of localities to 100 with one in each department. This Ridván the Convention cabled, "Completed Goal 100 localities, opened five departments, two Indian assemblies...

India

Miss Aftábi, medical student and pioneer, is the only Bahá'í in Goa. Recently she gave her first public Bahá'i' talk addressing students invited by the Father of Jesuits Society. Some of the students were so impressed with her speech that they are arranging for her to give further lectures to the Local Youth Organisations, the Lions Clubs, and the Rotary Club.

Teachers from India have been sent to East Pakistan, Ceylon, Sikkim and Bhutan, and pioneers have gone to Gambia and Jamaica. Bahá'i' literature has been enriched in five languages. 1300 children are given Bahá'i' education in forty-five schools. Thousands of educated people were attracted to the Faith by a four-page article in the 'Illustrated Weekly of India'.

Thirty-two villages in the Gwalior area and twentysix in Ujjain were brought to full Bahá'í status.

A total of over 45,000 new Bahá'is were accepted in the past year and over 2500 new localities were opened; the NSA hoped to form about 800 new local assemblies at Ridván.

Indian Ocean Mauritius: Goal, 40 Assemblies. 1968 saw 39

formed; 45 in 1970.

Reunion Is.: Goal, 10 Assemblies. 1968 saw 3 formed: 5 in 1970.

Malagasy Rep.: Goal, 10 Assemblies. 1968 saw 3 formed; 3 in 1970.

Italy

Announce: "Rejoice formation 2 new assemblies,

group, Aeolian Islands...'

Announce: "...Two additional assemblies formed... Japan Half million Proclamation pamphlets soon ready

distribution Expo...'

Eleven assemblies last year, and doubled this year Laos towards goal of thirty-six spiritual assemblies by

1973.

New Zealand Reports "...Formation one goal assembly...Historic

mass movement country-wide teaching...'

Nigeria Cabled from Convention, "...spiritual assembly suc-

cessfully born Calabar...five new local assemblies, conversion completely Bahá'í village...vigorous pot-

ential evident...'

Convention cabled, "Radiant historic Convention, Paraguay

fervent dedication surpass Nine Year Plan. Goal achieved." The National Spiritual Assembly then increased their goal from nine to fifteen local

assemblies.

Their goals included to open at least 60 localities and form 24 local assemblies, Convention this year announced that they had not only achieved 42 assemblies already and had past the localities goal

in 1968, but they were adopting for this year a goal of 31 more assemblies and 97 localities, plus consolidation.

Philippine Islands

The goal of 1000 localities was passed in 1965 and 122 of the 200 assemblies were formed last year. This Ridvan all the 200 assemblies were reported including 30 in Palawan Island.

Sarawak

Peru

About 200 people packed the five-foot passage-way of Beluru Bazaar from 7 until 10 p.m. one evening when a colourful Bahá'i' slide show was beamed on a tiny screen in the isolated Bazaar where the world community is unknown. The spectators exclaimed "Hua!", then became silent as a voice named each object in Malay as it appeared on the screen. In an isolated Bazaar like Beluru this is excellent publicity, and it has changed the attitude of the people towards the Bahá'iś.

Sweden

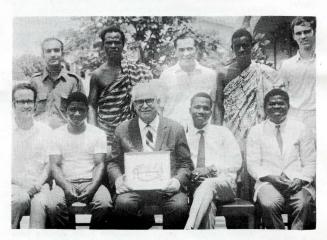
Sverre Holmsen, a Bahá'í and the well-known Swedish author of many books, has published a book about the Bahá'i' Faith entitled 'The Illuminated Horizons' which has received excellent press reviews in a number of Swedish newspapers.

Venezuela

The goal was 49 assemblies but from cables received in the Holy Land it was learned, "...Total assemblies 78. In Guajira 53...more than 1000 declaration in Guajira in Venezuela expansion proiect.'

General Information

Forty-nine territories or countries have achieved or surpassed some of their Nine Year Plan Goals. One in Africa; twenty in the Americas; thirteen in Asia; five in Australasia and ten in Europe.



FIRST NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'IS **OF GHANA**

Left to Right - Standing:

Golgasht Mossafai, Pioneer for British Isles - Chairman

Maxwell Budu - Vice Chairman

Michael Williams, Pioneer for British Isles

Andrew Sagoe, Assistant Treasurer

Eddie Whiteside, Pioneer for British Isles - Treasurer

Seated:

Samuel Lynch, Pioneer for British Isles - Secretary.

Robert Naabi

Hand of the Cause Mr. Jalal Khazeh

Ernest Bentil

David Tanyi, Pioneer from Cameroon Republic (Knight of

Bahá'u'lláh)

Snippets from British Goal Territories

Europe

Good teaching continues in CYPRUS and declarations and youth claiming their voting rights are periodically received; the Hellicars are very happy and doing well. In spite of tremendous difficulties pioneer projects are being planned for the FAROES and your prayers are asked for Marion and Michael Cleasby, Audrey Jenkinson and Richard Bury that doors will be opened for them. Baha'is on holiday have visited GIBRALTAR and MALTA and pioneer Jean Campbell has been on holiday from MALTA in England. We have a role to play in no less than ten of the Mediterranean Islands.

Africa

Pioneers Golgasht Mustaphai is Chairman and Sam Lynch is Secretary of the new National Spiritual Assembly of GHANA, Eddie Whiteside Treasurer and Mike Williams are also members. Eddie and Marie and Golgasht, on leave in England, met with the Overseas Goals Committee in London in July. It is with deep regret that we announce that pioneer Mike Williams is in England for at least a year because of a heart attack he suffered when he arrived on leave from Ghana. All our pioneers there have been doing a tremendously successful job and we hope to tell the story more fully later. From Convention UGANDA it was learned that of the 1500 Goal assemblies, 1093 were achieved last year and the total raised to 1400 this year. Thirty pieces of Endowment land were pledged. Four Pygmies were amongst the delegates and visitors attending Convention.

Pioneers are still most urgently needed for TANZANIA, S.W. AFRICA, DAHOMEY and UGANDA.

Asia and Pacific areas

A cable from the National Spiritual Assembly of Samoa to the Universal House of Justice said that two Samoans had offered to pioneer to GILBERT ISLANDS. Unfortunately David Hopper has been obliged to return to Britain after his very valuable services there. Along with the announcement of the formation of the first National Spiritual Assembly in FIJI came the news that the teaching goal of seven assemblies and twenty-five localities had been achieved and that new plans were being formulated. It is hoped that pioneers for HONG KONG will be found in Malaysia.

Americas

When the National Spiritual Assembly was formed in 1967 in BELIZE it was given the goals of at least eight local assemblies and twenty-five localities. At this Convention they announced "Twenty-five assemblies, ninety-six localities, thirty-seven groups, 1010 believers." In TRINIDAD and TOBAGO, due to form its first National Spiritual Assembly next year, the number of new believers has quadrupled during this past year and nine assemblies in Trinidad and two in Tobago were formed this Ridván.

Editorial Note:

It is hoped to feature some of the highlights of the exciting marathon tour of Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhiyyih <u>Kh</u>ánum and some reports of the Bahá'is in their United Nations activities in the next issue of the 'Journal'.

UNIVERSAL PARTICIPATION

 A message to all the believers in the British Isles from their National Spiritual Assembly.

On the 29th June we sent a three page letter to reach every believer and from the reports we are receiving it has been warmly welcomed.

It was basically a call to action but really not initiated by us, it had its origin in the earliest of messages from the Universal House of Justice.

There were really three parts to this call. Firstly, we drew attention to a part of our Faith that, in the hurly-burly of modern life, we often tend to overlook, that there is, in the Bahá'is World Community a 'source of power and vitality as yet unknown'. This the Universal House of Justice explains most clearly in their message of September, 1964 and which we now quote almost in full. They refer to their announcement of the Nine Year Plan with its two major themes; one being a 'huge expansion of the Cause of God' and the other 'universal participation'. It is this second theme, giving us the secret of 'power and vitality' which we must fully understand and observe, if we are to meet the urgent and pressing demands of today's world.

"...the dedicated effort of every believer in teaching, in living the Bahá'i'life, in contributing to the Fund, and particularly to understand more and more the significance of Bahá'u'lláh's Revelation. In the words of our beloved Guardian, 'One thing and only one thing will unfailingly and alone secure the undoubted trimph of this sacred Cause, namely, the extent to which our own inner life and private character mirror forth in their manifold aspects the splendour of those eternal principles proclaimed by Bahá'u'lláh.' "

UTMOST IMPORTANCE OF PARTICIPATION

"Regard the world as the human body" wrote Bahá'u'lláh to Queen Victoria. We can surely regard the Bahá'i'world, the army of God, in the same way. In the human body, every cell, every organ, every nerve has its part to play. When all do so the body is healthy, vigorous, radiant, ready for every call made upon it. No cell, however humble, lives apart from the body, whether in serving it or receiving from it. This is true of the body of mankind in which God "has endowed each humble being with ability and talent," and is supremely true of the body of the Bahá'í World Community, for this body is already an organism, united in its aspirations, unified in its methods, seeking assistance and confirmation from the same Source, and illumined with the conscious knowledge of its unity. Therefore, in this organic, divinely guided, blessed and illuminated body

the participation of every believer is of the utmost importance, and is a source of power and vitality as yet unknown to us. For extensive and deep as has been the sharing in the glorious work of the Cause, who would claim that every single believer has succeeded in finding his or her fullest satisfaction in the life of the Cause? The Bahá'i' World Community, growing like a healthy new body, develops new cells, new organs, new functions and powers as it presses on to its maturity, when every soul, living for the Cause of God, will receive from that Cause, health, assurance and the overflowing bounties of Bahá'u'lláh which are diffused through His divinely-ordained order.

THE ACCESSION OF POWER

In addition to teaching every believer can pray. Every believer can strive to make his "own inner life and private character mirror forth in their manifold aspects the splendour of those eternal principles proclaimed by Bahá'u'lláh." Every believer can contribute to the Fund. Not all believers can give public talks, not all are called upon to serve on administrative institutions. But all can pray, fight their own spiritual battles, and contribute to the Fund. If every believer will carry out these sacred duties, we shall be astonished at the accession of power which will result to the whole body, and which in its turn will give rise to further growth and the showering of greater blessings on all of us.

The real secret of universal participation lies in the Master's oft expressed wish that the friends should love each other, constantly encourage each other, work together, be as one soul in one body, and in so doing become a true, organic, healthy body animated and illumined by the spirit. In such a body all will receive spiritual health and vitality from the organism itself, and the most perfect flowers and fruits will be brought forth.

The Universal House of Justice.

The **Second** part of the message from the National Assembly dealt with the challenge to the British Community. The audacious decision to set our sights on completing our pioneer and assembly goals at home and overseas by 1972, a year ahead of time, needs no amplification. It was simply stated as a challenge. With the full participation of the believers it would present no difficulty. There is sufficient potential in the British Isles to accomplish every goal with time to spare. Some of the friends may need help however. Help to see just what can be done, how they can serve, how, in their own particular way, they can participate. To this end we took the following actions:

- 1 To call the friends to pray, to move, to search, to teach, and to love and encourage each other as never before.
- 2 To ask every local assembly to consult now with every believer in its community to see how it can help each one to set himself an individual goal and make more effective his individual service to the Cause.
- 3 To ask every local assembly to study what it can do in the way of setting goals for its own community. These would perhaps be over and above those set by their own individuals and beyond the capacity of any one person to achieve, e.g. extension work in a nearby village; holding an area meeting; developing inter-assembly co-operation; area publicity, etc.
- 4 To make specific and special goals for the whole British community.
- 5 To help the friends to become better acquainted with the British goals of the Plan by producing an insert for this issue of the 'Journal' which you can keep by you and mark on it from time-to-time the goals as they are achieved.
- 6 To seek fuller co-operation with the Board of Counsellors and their Auxiliary Board Members and then help the local assemblies to call more frequently on their respective Board Member for help and inspiration.
- 7 To call on the National Assembly members to visit the local communities more frequently; we have even set up a sub committee to keep this movement going, particularly to places where the need seems greatest.

8 To make our administration and our communication more efficient and better equipped to serve the community. Towards this end we announced our new plans for the National Office structure. To help our communication we are studying how the 'Bahá'i' Journal' and the 'Nineteen-Day Newsletter' can be put to their best use.

9 To give more help to local assemblies through the Community Development and the Proclamation Committees.

The Third part of our letter of 29 June contained an expression of our confidence that the goals can be won, that the British Community has got the spirit and the will to arise and join many of her sister communities in achieving their goals early in order to help others who perhaps face far greater obstacles. It was said in that letter that the achievement of goals is in some ways a measure of our capacity. That measure has been set us from a Divinely-inspired source. That same source of guidance makes it clear, by quoting our beloved Guardian's own words, how much the achievement of our goals is essential to our future role in the Bahá'í World, to our future destiny, our future joy and strength. As long ago as 1946 the Guardian began to describe this destiny. Referring to the achievement of the goals of the Six Year Plan the Guardian wrote,

"...an enterprise which, if successful, will pave the way, and provide the necessary agencies, for the proclamation of the Faith to the masses throughout the British Isles. The present Plan is but a stepping stone..."

And a year later,

"...The Bahá'is of the British Isles are now, ...building up the essential and primary institutions for the proclamation of the Faith to the masses of their countrymen, at a subsequent stage in the development of the Faith in their land..."

In November, 1948 came the challenge:

"...Theirs is the unrivalled opportunity...to embark, in the course of subsequent Plans...to proclaim, unequivocally, systematically and effectively, to the masses throughout the length and breadth of the British Isles the verities enshrined in their Faith...'

Nine years later, on the eve of his passing, he penned these poignant words to summarise the objectives of a Community he loved so dearly and in the heart of which he was laid to rest.

"...The rapid multiplication of isolated centres, groups and local assemblies, ...; the incorporation of firmly grounded local spiritual assemblies; a greater measure of publicity; a wider dissemination of Bahá'i literature; a quick and substantial rehabilitation of the vitally important national Fund; a firmer grasp of the essential verities of the Faith; a more profound study of its history and a deeper understanding of the genesis, the significance, the workings, and the present status and achievements of its embryonic World Order and of the Covenant to which it owes its birth and vitality - these remain the rock-bottom requirements which alone can guarantee the opening and hasten the advent, of that blissful era which every British Bahá'í heart so eagerly anticipates, and the glories of which can, at present, be but dimly discerned...May they, as they forge ahead along the high road leading to ultimate, total and complete victory, receive as their daily sustenance, a still fuller measure of the abounding grace promised to the believers of an earlier generation by the Centre of the Covenant, the Author of the Divine Plan, Himself...'

Need we say more?

National Spiritual Assembly.



Members of the National Assembly after their election at Ridván; seated clockwise round the table are George Bowers, Joe Jameson; 'Abbas Afnan, Philip Hainsworth, John Long, Betty Goode, Charles MacDonald, Patrick Green and Adib Taherzadeh.

MANCHESTER BAHÁ'Í YOUTH RALLY

On Saturday, May 9, 1970, over one hundred friends gathered together in the Grand Hotel, Manchester to attend a one day Youth Rally organised by the local youth. The three speakers: Meherangiz Munsiff, David Hines and Paul Adams gave wonderful and inspiring talks oriented to the theme of the day's proceedings "The Most Great Peace" - a subject evoking much discussion. in the afternoon, especially among the thirty contacts (mainly youth). A 'Group discussions' session enabled some of our new Bahá'is (thanks to a recent spate of declarations in the Manchester area) and many of the contacts to probe more deeply into the Faith.

The spirit of unity which grew during the meeting was regenerated in the evening at a special youth party at the Manchester Centre where discussions continued and those with energy left sang or danced the night away. Many of the friends travelled great distances to be present and the committee would like to express its thanks and appreciation for this tremendous support.

The Youth Rally was preceded by much activity in the community and one project undertaken was that of a questionnaire which the youth took out into the streets of Manchester in order to find out what the population thought about religion. The figures are based on a sample of seventy interviewees; the vast majority were keen, eager and helpful during the interview, only a small proportion were rather indifferent and one or two 'suspicious'! The results are as follows:-

- Do you believe in God? Yes -68%; No -24%; Don't know -8%.
- Does this belief play an active part in your daily life? Definitely - 38%; Sometimes - 18%; Seldom - 12%; Never - 32%.
- 3 Do you classify your religious beliefs according to your upbringing or your own personal investigations? Upbringing -28%; Investigation -46%; Both -26%.
- Do you ever wonder about the world's other major religions? Yes -73%; No -27%.
- 5 Is there a need for the major religions of the world to be

Yes -65%; No -33%; Don't know -2%.

- Would you like to see all peoples and races with equal opportunity? Yes - 94%; No - 6%.
- Are science and religion compatible? Yes -56%; No -38%; Should be -6%.
- 8 Would you regard world peace as a realistic idea or an idealistic aim? Realistic - 46%; Idealistic - 54%.
- Have you ever heard of the Bahá'í Faith? Yes -20%; No -80%.

All those interviewed were aged under thirty.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How well do you read your 'Journal'?

Answers to the questions on page six, culled from recent 'Journal' issues.

- Smoking
- 2 From noon to sunset

5 23 June, 1970

- 3 In 'Universal Participation'
- The Universal House of Justice
- 'B.J.' No: 196, page 5 'B.J.' (as above)
- This 'Journal', page 9 'B.J.' No: 198, page 7, 1st
- 'B.J.' No: 199, page 2.

NEW BELIEVERS

Since the February 1970 issue of the 'Journal' was published, we have been able to extend a warm and loving welcome to no less than 183 new believers; 72 were enrolled in Guyana and of the 111 in Britain, 37 were Youth.

ENGLAND

YOUTH

Robert Waring - Kirkby Miss Denyse Brunton – Torbay Farhad Azizi — Bournemouth Stephen Vickers - Solihull Miss J' Rawlinson - Cheadle & Gatley Miss Phyllis Frere-Smith - Norwich David Wilson - Eccles Miss Sheralyn Habibi - Manchester David Brown - Salford

Mrs. Joy Sell - Waddington Mrs. Edith Walker - Kendal Jerzy Brent - Swinton Anthony Pirkis - Hammersmith Mrs. Jessie Garden Pole - Sheffield Mrs. Winifred Tophouse - Halton Village Mrs. Patricia Longbottom - Lincoln Terence Mainwaring - Kirkby Mrs. Dorothy Clouston - Scarisbrick Keith Vann - Leicester Miss Margaret Gibbons - Kensington lan Hutchinson – Eccles Lady Helen Nutting — Brighton Mrs. Gladys McKenzie - London Mrs. Marina Lewis — Newport Mrs. Valerie Tracy — Shrewsbury James Clouston - Shincliffe John Machin - Hereford.

Miss Erica Lewis - Exeter Miss Lois Chinn — Brent Patrick Vickers — Solihull

WALES

YOUTH

Miss Marion Sabri — Dolgellan, N. Wales Gerald Lemonheigh — Pontypridd

Mrs. Rosina Robert - Dyffryn

SCOTLAND

YOUTH

Nassim Tahzib - Glasgow

Lamech Fananapazir - Edinburgh

IRELAND

YOUTH

Derek Redfern - Belfast

ADULTS

Miss Pat Storey - Bangor, N. Ireland

Miss Susan Anwar - Portsmouth Miss Mahvash Rasti - Bournemouth Miss Anna Falle - Brighton Stuart James - Newport Claude Frere-Smith, Norwich Miss Estelle Thistleton - Eccles Miss Moya Wilson - Eccles Jeffrey Berens - Manchester Miss Vivian Lo, Liverpool

Mrs. Dorothy Jean Wallis - Carlton Reginald Gillett - Bolton Mrs. Jennie Tootall - Swinton Miss Vivian Chow - Hammersmith Godfrey Nix - Sheffield Mrs. Tania Trootter - Warlingham Mrs. Bertha Waring - Kirkby Mrs. Hilda Black — Cheltenham Anthony Clarke — Worcester Miss Margaretha Lindeman - Barnet Mrs. Teresa Maginsky - Eccles James White - Burnley Mrs. Ines R. de Musa Hitam - Brighton Michael Leggett - Luton Mrs. Marion Dunn - Newport Mrs. Kathleen Harris - Shrewsbury Mrs. Noreen Billing - St. Austell

Miss Alison Butler - Torbay Miss Elaheh Azizi - Bournemouth Peter Grove - Solihull Miss Leslie McCarthy - Newport Miss Bridget Frere-Smith - Norwich Miss Rona Wilson - Eccles John Gilbert - Manchester Aziz Yazdi - Cambridge Jonathon Youngman - Kings Langley

James Walker - Kendal Mrs. Audrey Gillett - Bolton Kenneth Maslen - Torbay Mrs. Ruth Bradley - Sheffield Keith Dodd - Chester Mrs. Rose Alexander - Lincoln Miss Gillian Dunn - Kirkby Mr. Kenneth Wren - Salisbury Clive Colin - Leicester Brian Golightly - Durham Michael Maginsky - Eccles William Moorhouse - Burnley John B. Grant - London Donald Lewis - Newport Mrs. Rosalie Bennett - Shrewsbury Derek Atkinson - Reigate Mrs. Marion D'Netto - York

YOUTH CLAIMING THEIR VOTING RIGHTS

Peter Wormersley - Nelson Miss Hazel Baines — Nottingham Peter Trundle — Peterborough

Ian Worthington - Stockport Naysan Faizi - Lambeth

David Addis - Beddau, Pontypridd John Netherwood - Bangor, N. Wales

Mrs. June Calver - Cardiff

ADULTS Miss Sheila Hukku - Glasgow

YOUTH CLAIMING THEIR VOTING RIGHTS

lain Palin - Dalkeith

Mrs. Bessie Dawson - Crew Green

Philip Lemonheigh - Pontypridd

Antony Day - Cardiff

Miss Kathleen Bridge - Camden

Mrs. Laurina Smith - Glasgow

James Gibson - Belfast

Jennifer Simpson - Londonderry

Mrs. Mirrian Alcock - Londonderry

David McMullen - Bangor, N. Ireland YOUTH CLAIMING THEIR VOTING RIGHTS

Patricia Montgomery - Belfast

Denis McKeown - Dublin

GUY ANA

ADIII TS

Inshan Ally, Grove, E.Bank, Demerara Leonard Latchman – E. Bank, Demerara Mrs. Zaindol Latchman - E.Bank, Demera Mrs. Bodhia Khan — E.Bank, Demerara Altab Hussain — E.Bank, Demerara Mrs. Khairool Hossain — E.Bank, Demerara Michael Edwards - Ituni Miss Tethary Etwar — Ituni Klenkein Princ — Ituni Oswald Hudson — Bartica Miss Thelma Ramkaran — Bartica Badri Narine — Annandale Rooprarome Singh — Annandale Ramsaroop Shanpaul — Annandale Roolplall Dudnath - Annandale Mrs. Rosalene Jameer - Annandale Mrs. Hazra — Annandale Mrs. Dhan Wantie Persuad — Craig

YOUTH Sankar Latchman - Grove, Demerara Mrs. Pamela Edwards — Ituni Miss Basmatie Singh — Annandale Ganasdas Ramchander – Rampour Baichan Persuad — Rampour Mohamed Ashraf Alli — Rampour Miss Jasodra Dookran — Hague Back

Miss Cynthia Ramjag — Britannia Seepersaud Harrillal — Rampour Mrs. Hirmatee Harrillal - Rampour Cyril Parbusingh - Rampour Mrs. Haguatee Ramodit - Rampour Mrs. Sherfan Ali — Rampour Mohamed Rahmet Ali — Rampour Neezam Baksh — Rampour Inshan Ally Khan — Rampour Mohamed Hanifi Osman - Rampour Mr. Kallap – Rampour Mr. Kallap — Rampour
Chanlak Persuad — Rampour
Mohamed Haniff — Rampour
Miss Zaifeereen Neshia — Rampour
Miss Ayab Nesha — Rampour
Mrs. Hesha Haniff — Rampour
Mohamed Nazool — Rampour
Ragina Paganaur Ragibr Bangat - Rampour

Boendra Latchman - Grove, Demerara Miss Jasmatie Moharallie – Annandale Miss Sabistr Jameer — Annandale Mamnarine Boodram — Rampour Abdul Hack - Rampour Miss Sherifan Eman - Rampour

Mr. Gajeet - Rampour Miss Sharlot Mohamed - Rampour Mr. Parmanand - Rampour Mrs. Suridge Monee - Rampour Moolsankar Ranchander – Rampour Yacoob Mohamed — Rampour Mr. Dookran — Hague Back Mrs. Sampatia Dookran – Hague Back Mrs. Bagwandi Persuad – Hague Back Akbar Ally — Mon Repos Mrs. Zarina Akbar Ally — Mon Repos Outar Balram Boodram — Mon Repos Mrs. Jane Dean — Craig, E. Bank Kenneth Briseport — La Grange Eustace McKay — E. La Penitance Mrs. E. McKay — E. La Penitance Mrs. Awls - Queenstown, Essequibo

Miss Veronica McKay — E.La Penitance Miss Bibi Assia — Annandale Miss Ramattie Persuad — Annandale Rampersuad Bisson — Rampour Mahomed Sattaur — Rampour Miss Shaleena Mohamed - Rampour

TRAVEL TEACHING COMMITTEE

Bahá'iś in the British Isles will be happy to know that a distinguished visitor, Hand of the Cause John Robarts, will be travelling to various centres to meet the friends from 18 September to 8 November. The cities he will be visiting are London, Bristol, Cardiff, Winchester, Exeter, Manchester, Leicester, Birmingham, Leeds and Cambridge and centres in Ireland and Scotland. Friends in the surrounding areas are asked to make a special effort to attend the sessions in these places as Mr. Robarts has asked to meet all the Bahá'is in the British Isles in order to help us in our teaching work. Having heard of the great things that have been achieved following his visits to Bahá'is in America, we feel sure that his meetings with friends in Britain will also be of great benefit. Details will be published and circulated at a later date.

At present some communities are being blessed by visits from Mrs. Isobel Sabri and Miss Irene Bennett from East Africa who are travel teaching in Wales, England and Scotland during June and July. They are visiting Aberystwyth, Peterborough, York, Leeds, Reading and centres in Scotland.

All Local Spiritual Assemblies, Goal-Towns and Groups have received forms requesting up-to-date information about Firesides, Public Meetings and Study Classses. We are very grateful to the centres who have replied and we publish a list of their activities in this issue. As we hear from the remaining centres, we will publish their details in subsequent issues.

In future, all travel teaching arranged through this Committee will be published regularly in the 'Journal' giving details of the friends who are doing the travel teaching and their experiences. We hope this will encourage more people to offer themselves for this work. All offers of travel teaching should be addressed to Mrs. Sylvia Benatar, 63 Hurst Park Avenue, Cambridge CB4 2AA. Telephone Cambridge 51467.

FIRESIDES, PUBLIC MEETINGS AND STUDY CLASSES

BIRMINGHAM BLACKPOOL

BOURNEMOUTH

BATH

Mr. N. Burroughs, Tel. 26725

Mrs, P. Green, 1534 Stratford Road, Hall Green, Tel.021-744-3715 Mrs. S. Noah, 93 Winnipeg Place, Bispham

Mr. & Mrs. Azizi, 12 Dunbar Road

Mrs. Cranmer, 41 Woodside Road, Southbourne

LSA Secretary, 44 Highbank

Mrs. Margaret Hines, 10 Burwen Close

Tels: Benatar 51467; Khavari 62813; Jahanpur 57025

Friends' Meeting House, The Friars

118 Lowry Hill Road

DURHAM **EXETER LEEDS**

LEICESTER

BARNET

MANCHESTER

NOTTINGHAM

SALISBURY

TORBAY

YORK

WATFORD

WEYBRIDGE

WINCHESTER

WOKINGHAM

CARLISLE

BRIGHTON

CAMBRIDGE

CANTERBURY

BURNLEY

22 Hallgarth Street 91 East John Street

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Hainsworth, 'Treen', Allerton Park

Public Meetings; Y.M.C.A., Albion Place

Baha'i Centre, 248 London Road, LE2 1RJ

LONDON BOROUGHS:

HARRINGAY

CROYDON

45 Riddlesdown Road, Purley 50 Muswell Avenue, Muswell Hill, N.10, Tel. 340-2073

24 Windsor Road, Finchley N.3. Tel. 346-5078

Mrs. Lewis, 192 Westbourne Grove, W.11. **KENSINGTON &**

CHELSEA Mrs. Eshragh, 39 Penyutern Road, Earls' Court Mr. Hamdi, 145 Coleherne Court, Redcliffe Gardens, S.W.5. **MERTON**

Mrs. Millar, 67 Grasmere Avenue, S.W.19. Tel. 540-1325 Mr. & Mrs. J. Habibi, 22 Everett Road, Withington (20)

360 Wilmslow Road, Fallowfield (9) 360 Wilmslow Road, Fallowfield (9)

Mr. & Mrs. Gregory, 4 Westmorland Court, Ebury Road

109 Netherhampton Road

SHEFFIELD Mrs. Zamiri, 592 Manchester Road,

STAFFORD Mr. K. Goode, 8 Knowle Road. Tel. 62157

Baha'i Centre, rear of 8 Lucius Street, Torquay

or 53 Occombe Valley Road, Paignton. Tel. Torquay 38538 Mr. K. Kouchekzadeh, 3 Wentworth Close. Tel. 20515

Mrs. G.M. Barrett, Eastgate, 259 Brooklands Road

Mrs. B' Lewis, 21 Hyde Close

31 Chatsworth Avenue, Winnersh, Bucks. Public meetings: York Co-op, Railway Street Mrs. Muriel Evans, 6 Whitby Avenue, Stockton Lane 3rd Sunday and alternate Thursdays. Fridays

Various times Alternate Wednesdays Fridays 7.30 p.m. Alternate Sundays 3.30 Wednesday 8.15 p.m.

Fridays

Tuesdays 8.30 p.m. 1st Fridays 8 p.m. Tuesdays 8 p.m. Fridays 8 p.m.

Mondays Tuesdays Wednesdays 8 p.m. 1st Thursdays

Saturdays Thursdays

Firesides Last Sunday Study Classes Mondays

Firesides Study Classes

Firesides

Firesides

Firesides

Firesides

Study Classes

Study Classes

Study Classes

Fridays 8 p.m. Various times Wednesdays Study Classes Tuesdays

Study Classes Sundays 3 p.m. Various times Firesides Fridays

Sunday evenings Firesides Study Classes 1st Tuesdays 1st & 3rd Tuesdays

Firesides Sundays Study Classes Firesides

Mondays or 1st Sundays Thursdays 8 p.m. Study Classes Alternate Sundays 3 pm Various times

Wednesdays & Friday 7.30 p.m. Every month Tuesdays Various times Fridays 8.30 p.m. 2nd Thursdays

Firesides Thursdays, except 2nd Thursdays

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NINE YEAR PLAN

Goals Sheet, to be retained and kept up-to-date.

HOME FRONT GOALS

- 1 Open the Inner Hebrides Islands, the Isle of Wight and Guernsey, and re-settle and establish a group in the Isle of Man.
- Raise the number of localities where Bahá'is reside to five hundred, including one in each of the above named territories and one in every county of Northern Ireland and Wales.
- 3 Raise the number of Local Spiritual Assemblies to one hundred including one in every county of England, one each in the Isle of Wight, the Orkney Islands, the Outer Hebrides Islands, the Channel Islands, and the Shetland Islands, ten in Scotland, six in Northern Ireland, six in Wales and four in Eire.

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Develop the Bahá'i Publishing Trust - proceeding

POSITIO	ON AT RIDVÁN, 1970						
	Isolated Centres Groups Local Spiritual Assemblies		172 124				
	England Republic of Ireland Scotland N. Ireland Wales		58 2 5 4 3				
		Total	72 72				
		Total number of local	ities 368				
(a) (b) (c) (d)	Inner Hebrides — Mull, opened Isle of Man — unopened OO Guernsey — unopened OO English Goal Towns — Carlisle		Chelmsford	••000000	Derby		
(e)	Kendal ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●		Kidderminster Hereford	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Lincoln Shrewsbury		
	Northampton • • • • 0 0 0 0 0	Epsom • • • •	•••00	York • • • • 0 0 0 0	0 O Hounslow • • • • • 0 0 0		
(f) (g)	English Island Assemblies Jersey (St. Helier) ● ● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ Scottish Goal Towns	Isle of Wight (Ryd	e) • 0 0 0 0	0000			
(h)	Dundee • • • • 0 0 0 0 0 Hamilton • • • 0 0 0 0 0 0 Scottish Islands' Assemblies		N. Berwick Dingwall	•••••••			
(i)	Orkneys (Kirkwall) — Achieved Shetlands (Lerwick) • • • • 0 0 0 0 Scottish Lapsed Assembly	0	Outer Hebrides (Stornoway) • • • • • • 0 0				
(j)	Aberdeen • • • • • • O Wales						
(k)	Lianelly • O O O O O O O O Northern Ireland		Bangor	••000000	Aberystwyth ● ● O O O O O O		
(1)	Craigavon ● O O O O O O O O Republic of Ireland — This year		Londonderry	•••••0000			
4	Cork	Welsh — in process	Limerick	••••••			
5 6 7 8 9 10	Establish the National Spiritual Assembly of Incorporate the National Spiritual Assembly Acquire a National Haziratu'l-Quds in Dub Acquire a National Endowment in Eire — s Acquire a Temple Site in or near Dublin — Incorporate thirty-four Local Spiritual Ass Obtain from the civil authorities recognition	y of Eire — 1972/73 lin — achieved earching achieved emblies.		•			

OVERSEAS GOALS

_	Pioneers	LSAS	Assis. Goal	Acquire Temple Land	Acquire Ḥaziratu'lQuds	Acquire Endowment Land	Notes
Europe							A C
Balearic Is.	••						Assist Spain
Cyclades	•		*				Opened assist Germany
Cyprus	●●0000	00 00					LSAs Famagusta,
							Nicosia
Faroes	0000	О					Asst. by Denmark and
							Norway
Gibraltar			*				Maintenance goal
Malta	●000000	00 0					
Corsica			*				Assist NSA of France
Crete			*				Assist NSA of Germany
Rhodes		0	*				Assist NSA of Italy
Sardinia		3	*				Assist NSA of Italy
Africa							
Cameroon			*		0		
Dahomey	••00				•		Now NSA of Dahomey,
Danomey							Togo and Niger
Gambia							rogo and rviger
	•		*				
Ghana	•••0						
Malawi			*		0		A NO A
Sierra Leone	••		*				Assist NSA of W.Africa
S.W. Africa	0						
Uganda	0						
Tanzania	00						Most urgent
Asia & Pacific							
Fiji	••		*				Assist NSA of S.Pacific
Gilbert & Ellice	0		*				Ocean. Now own NSA in Fiji
Hong Kong	0		*				Assist NSA of N.E.Asia
India	00						7100101 11071 01 111217 1010
Line Islands	0						
Pakistan	00						
	00		*				Opened Assist NSA of
Rodriguez/s.							Indian Ocean
Thailand	0	1					mulan Ocean
	0						0
Tokelau							Opened Assist NSA of
S. America							New Zealand
	•••						
Belize	••0						
Trinidad	••0				100		
Guyana	•	•••••	A TOTAL SEA SHEET OF	0			NSA established 1970

Four assemblies required, five already achieved; localities required — thirty-five; obtain recognition of Bahá'i'Holy Days and Marriage Certificate The new NSA of the Guyanas has to raise LSA to ten and localities of the three countries to fifty.

Goal achieved

 $[\]mathrm{O}-\mathrm{Goal}$ not yet achieved