



# BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

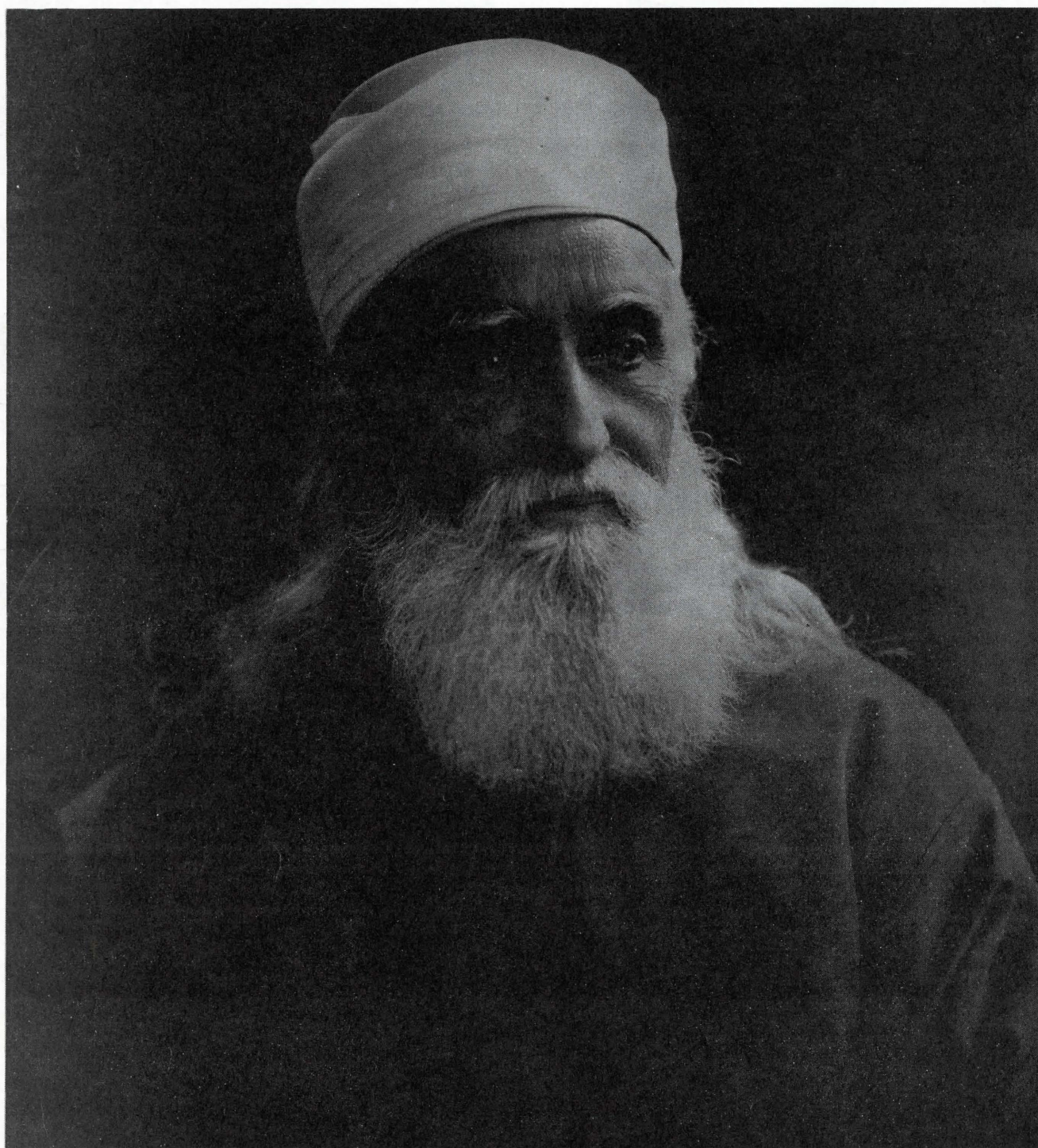
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Rahmat 128

July 1971



'ABDU'L-BAHÁ



## BAHÁ'Í PUBLISHING

March 28, 1971

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

Recognizing the need for a great increase in the provision of Bahá'í literature in all languages, we have reviewed the whole process of Bahá'í publishing including such matters as reviewing, standards of production, sales and distribution, relationships between National Spiritual Assemblies, the international needs of the teaching work and the position of Bahá'í authors. We are eager both to stimulate the supply of new works and to liberate the channels of publication and distribution. We wish to encourage Bahá'í authors as well as to promote production of the basic texts of the Faith.

We therefore ask you to study the attached memorandum yourselves, pass it on to your Publishing Trusts and/or other agencies concerned, and make it available generally to the friends in whatever way you may find practicable.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

*The Universal House of Justice*

### NOTES FROM THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

- 1 The full text of the memorandum has been made available to the Publishing Trust and Reviewing Committees.
- 2 As the 'Bahá'í Journal' Editorial Committee and the National Youth Committees are responsible for the review of material submitted to, or commissioned by them, they have received appropriate excerpts from the memorandum.
- 3 The full text of the memorandum is being sent to Bahá'ís who have had material on the Faith published, and copies are being made for issue to all Bahá'ís who, in the future, are preparing material for publication. A full copy will be sent to every Local Assembly.
- 4 Excerpts for the general guidance of the believers are now quoted.

### REVIEWING

#### Obligatory

At this early stage of the Cause all works by Bahá'ís which deal with the Faith, whether in the form of books, pamphlets, translations, poems, songs, radio and television scripts, films, recordings, etc. must be approved before submission for publication, whether to a Bahá'í or non-Bahá'í publisher. In the case of material for purely local consumption the competent authority is the Local Spiritual Assembly, otherwise the National Spiritual Assembly (through its Reviewing Committee) is the approving authority.

#### A Temporary Measure

That this measure is both obligatory and temporary is borne out by the following statements of the Guardian:

"They must supervise, in these days when the Cause is still in its infancy, all Bahá'í publications and translations, and provide in general for a dignified and accurate presentation of all Bahá'í literature and its distribution to the general public." (Principles of Bahá'í Administration, pp. 38-39)

"...The administration of the Cause...should guard against such rigidity as would clog and fetter the liberating forces released by His Revelation. ...The present restrictions imposed on the publication of Bahá'í literature will be definitely abolished;..." (The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh, p. 9)

#### Purpose of Review

The purpose of review is to protect the Faith from misrepresentation and to ensure dignity and accuracy in its presentation. In general the function of a reviewing committee is to say whether the work submitted gives an acceptable presentation of the Cause or not...

#### Reviewing Committees

...The standards to be upheld by reviewers are the following (a) conformity with the Teachings, (b) accuracy, (c) dignity in presentation. The Spiritual Assembly, on the basis of its Reviewing Committee's report, gives or withholds approval of the work.

### Approval of Works Already Reviewed Elsewhere

While a National Spiritual Assembly intending to publish Bahá'í literature is encouraged to accept the review of another National Spiritual Assembly, it is not required to do so and has the right to review any work prior to authorizing its publication or republication by its own Publishing Trust or publisher in its area of jurisdiction. This does not apply to works by Hands of the Cause, which are reviewed in the Holy Land.

A National Spiritual Assembly which receives for approval a manuscript from outside its area of jurisdiction should enquire whether it has already been submitted for review elsewhere, and in the case of its having been refused approval, the reasons for such refusal.

### BAHÁ'Í PUBLISHERS

Bahá'í publishers may not publish any work about the Faith until it has been approved by the National Spiritual Assembly of the country where it is to be published.

#### Cables

Cables in English should be printed exactly as received, without interpolation.

#### Editing

Bahá'í publishers, when accepting a work for publication, will make their own arrangements with the author on all such matters as accuracy of quotations, documentation, grammar and spelling, dates and even the re-writing of passages which the publisher may consider need improving, or he may ask the author to write additional material or to delete part of the original manuscript. Although such matters are entirely between the author and publisher, any addition, deletion or changes which affect the meaning must be submitted for review with the relative context.

#### Approval Notice

Although no Bahá'í work may be published without approval, it is not mandatory to print an approval notice in any publication.

### BAHÁ'Í AUTHORS

Bahá'í authors should welcome review of their works, and can greatly assist promptness in review by supplying a sufficient number of copies of the manuscript for each member of the Reviewing Committee to have one...

It is hoped that Bahá'í authors will provide a constant stream of new works. Introductory books, commentaries, dissertations on various aspects of the Revelation, text books, histories, reviews, audio-visual material are all needed to stimulate study of the Faith and to promote the vital teaching work...

*The Universal House of Justice*

### NEW NAME FOR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

19 May 1971.

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

In reply to your letter of May 14th we accept your recommendation that after the formation of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Republic of Ireland your own National Spiritual Assembly will become known as the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United Kingdom.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

*The Universal House of Justice*

#### (Note)

All Committees, when preparing stationery, hand-outs, etc. should remember this change of name which will be operative from Ridván, 1972. Articles of Association, Wills, Bankers' Orders, Covenants and other such documents may require amendment.

National Spiritual Assembly.



## 50th ANNIVERSARY: PASSING OF 'ABDU'L-BAHÁ

April 15th, 1971.

To: All National Spiritual Assemblies,

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

Our Ridván message this year called attention to the impending fiftieth anniversary of the passing of 'Abdu'l-Bahá "an event which signalled at once the end of the Heroic Age of our Faith, the opening of the Formative Age and the birth of the Administrative Order, the nucleus and pattern of the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh."

We now call upon all National Spiritual Assemblies to formulate and implement plans designed to educate the friends everywhere in their understanding of the significance of the Formative Age of our Faith. As an aid to this programme we attach extracts from the writings of the beloved Guardian on this general theme, and we suggest that these and similar excerpts from the writings be studied and expounded at the forthcoming Summer Schools, at special sessions of Teaching Institutes, at conferences of the friends, and indeed on any occasions which you may deem suitable.

We leave it to you to use the wonderful material bequeathed to us by the beloved Guardian on this theme in whatever manner you deem best for your own communities. The study and understanding of this subject will immensely strengthen the faith of the believers as well as their ability to present the message to a waiting world.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

*The Universal House of Justice*

### ACTION BY THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

- 1 All communities are to be requested to hold special commemorative meetings for which the National Assembly will provide the programmes.
- 2 Very special meetings will be held in London, Oxford, Bristol, Liverpool and Edinburgh to which invitations will be sent to dignitaries and other individuals. The invitation will be sent with a new copy of 'The Passing of 'Abdu'l-Bahá' and other literature (either existing or newly prepared). A National Assembly sub-committee is to prepare these programmes.
- 3 Plans to help educate all the friends in the understanding of the significance of the Formative Age of the Faith are being made for the Summer Schools of Ireland and Scotland.
- 4 The National Teaching Committee is being asked to help in the organisation of weekend and one-day schools and conferences, and provide speakers, on this same theme. It is hoped that during the next few months all Assemblies will have had the opportunity to get together with other assemblies and groups, to study the subject. The National Youth Committees will also be asked to provide opportunities for such study at their annual events.
- 5 During the week of the actual Commemoration, there will be a display in the National Házíratu'l-Quds of the Archives associated with the Master.
- 6 A booklet written by Adib Taherzadeh will be a valuable aid to this study period and it is hoped to have it available in time for the Commemoration.

## THE DIFFUSION OF DIVINE FRAGRANCES

Such is the volume of the reports of the wonderful services of the beloved Hands of the Cause of God that we can report in brief some of the highlights only.

### 'AMATU'L-BAHÁ RÚHÍYYIH KHÁNÚM RESUMES AFRICAN TRAVELS

'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánúm, accompanied by Mrs. Violette Nakhjavani and Mr. Golgasht Mossafai, were received by the Acting Prime Minister of Ghana. Prior to her visit with the Acting Prime Minister Rúhíyyih Khánúm spent about half an hour with newsmen explaining in detail the Teachings of the Faith.

The news of this interview was carried on the regular television newscasts of the evening. Following this, an interview was arranged on television.

Following her visit to Ghana the Hand of the Cause drove to Liberia where she met with His Excellency, the President, William V.S. Tubman.

"A word about Timbuktu: It is a sad town in the wilderness, the only living thing about it being a completely dead past. The Government is trying to make it a tourist attraction. We drove up four hundred miles to a place called Mopti and then flew in and out. We were able to call on the Mayor, a military Captain and his Adjutant, an extremely well-informed civilian. I chatted on tourism, their country, etc., and got around to my trip and its purpose and then presented a general pamphlet on the Faith which I am sure the intelligent Adjutant will study carefully. We also spoke to the head of tourism there and our guide, both well-educated, English speaking men. More was not possible but I hope it means Timbuktu is 'opened'."

In a report regarding Mali and Upper Volta, ...As it turned out we got excellent publicity in both places. Guilda being very successful in these matters. I had a half hour radio interview in

Ouagadougou (Upper Volta) in which extremely acute questions were asked and it really resulted in the entire works, so to speak. There was also to be a long newspaper article to come out after we left.

"Although the President of Upper Volta, Mr. Lamizana, had been absent in Dakar meeting with M. Pompidou, and must have been rushed with official work on his return, he, with typical African courtesy received Violette, Guilda and me for about five minutes. In sum both Upper Volta and Mali are tremendously promising places at present to teach the Faith; particularly for people of Moslem background who speak French. They are also not very expensive places to live if one knows how to keep house."

"One of the young Bahá'ís gave us a letter to his fiancée who is in Tamale (Ghana) Teachers Training College and asked us to make her a Bahá'í too. Both were Moslems. She was thrilled with the Faith and through her, Violette met the Principal and asked if she would like me to give a talk on the role of women in the world. I spoke to about 250 girls and the Principal in her introduction asked me first to tell them briefly what the Bahá'í Faith is."

"We went to six villages near Tamale and also met some of the local friends. I gave a public talk and the audience stayed on and on, asking questions. It must have lasted two hours. There is a great receptivity and we can easily attract the youth everywhere."

"In Kumasi (Ghana) I got (through Guilda) a long and excellent interview in the Kumasi paper which, though it makes no difference to me, greatly encourages the new believers because they see they belong to something that has a tangible reality outside the sitting room of a teacher who has been teaching them such wonderful things!..."



## THE DIFFUSION OF DIVINE FRAGRANCES (continued)

"I am firmly convinced with every trip I take that it is better and wiser to do one thing well than two things badly. By this I mean that if you have a situation where everything is going ahead remarkably don't weaken it. Sometimes one can only describe things as being in excellent chemical balance. In the Faith it is a spiritual chemistry. Here, (I mean in Ghana) the deep affection they have for each other and their team work is, I believe, the kernel of the vitality of the National Spiritual Assembly. My feeling is that in our Bahá'í World the more we create mature, outstanding, expanding National Bahá'í Communities the better it is for the work all over the world because a strong National Community is the ultimate goal and it means gradually the friends will support their own work financially as well as being more active in every way. It also means, as we all know, that we develop new reservoirs of pioneers and teachers as well as administrators."

"Africa, since I went on my first trip ten years ago was, so to speak, not a market for Bahá'í books because the people were not reading-minded. Now they are to an unbelievable degree. The new generation are serious minded readers so that it is no longer a question of handing out a little brochure. They crave books and treasure the Word of God. This is particularly true of these French-speaking countries. They also could and would read a book such as the *Dawn Breakers*, particularly those of Moslem background..."

"...Visits to Northern Ghana, Liberia, Sierre Leone, Senegal, highly successful. Met Governor General Prime Minister Stevens, Freetown. President Senghor, Dakar. Excellent publicity everywhere..."

(Extracts from cable received from 'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánum - dated 11 April, 1971).

"Everywhere we go we are impressed by the tremendous possibilities for development. Liberia has immense promise as far as I can judge. The moment you leave Monrovia you find the rest of Africa, so to speak, with all the traits of the African people which one loves and admires. There are, to my astonishment, a tremendous number of pagans in Liberia. The degree to which the old beliefs prevail is far greater than anyone who does not move intimately among the people could ever know."

"I was surprised that after getting so much publicity recently at the Conference they should take me on a long radio interview again and on a TV program. It shows how warmly the people reacted to the Bahá'í events held there."

"I really could not praise the pioneers there too highly. There is great devotion on all sides. We visited Buchanan, Bomi Hills and Mano River, sleeping in all three places."

"Our week in Sierra Leone was excellent in every way. Articles in the press, a radio interview in addition to announcements and a TV interview that lasted three quarters of an hour! A Dr. Thomas, who had acted as chairman at a public talk I gave at the University of Sierra Leone, called Fourah Bay College (a well attended talk with a lot of questions at the end) also acted as the interviewer on the television program. It was an animated and interesting three quarters of an hour. In addition to this we made a special trip to Njala University College where we have an American who has transferred there from the States to study and serve as a pioneer at the same time. He had arranged for me to speak in the Chapel. In addition to these lectures I spoke at the Teacher's Training College near Freetown and at the Methodist Boy's School..."

"Gambia, like every other country we have visited, is highly receptive to the Faith. As four of the Local Spiritual Assemblies to be formed were about 80 miles from here (Bathurst) we arranged to try to get the four near here elected on Tuesday evening. Ridván day I was out almost 14 hours and was present when three Assemblies were elected. We worked in teams and got nine of the contemplated 10 Assemblies elected. Every place was visited at least once before the election. In one village we first went and got 12 new believers, 11 of them women and then went back for the election. Of the 23 voters, 23 ballots were cast and two women elected. The response to the teachings, such as that men and women are equal, etc., is warm and immediate. They just need to be cared for and taught. In another place two women were elected and on another Local Spiritual Assembly, one. This is directly due, I am sure, to having previously emphasized the role of women."

## HAND OF THE CAUSE COLLIS FEATHERSTONE VISITS EAST PAKISTAN

Following the historic South China Seas Oceanic Conference, Pakistan was blessed with the Hand of the Cause of God Collis Featherstone's visit. He addressed a number of new and old believers in the Centre at a Teaching Conference in Dacca. On encountering, among the new believers, two who were dressed as traditional Mullas he embraced them lovingly and commented that it was to the praise of Bahá'u'lláh that all people are now embracing the Cause.

At a public meeting where the Hand of the Cause spoke the hall was overflowing and his talk was printed in two of the newspapers.

Several people accepted the Cause during his visit and it is felt that his visit inspired all of the friends in East Pakistan to new heights of endeavour.

## HAND OF THE CAUSE ENOCH OLINGA CONTINUES GLOBAL TRAVELS FOR THE CAUSE

A report has been received from the Fiji Islands where the Hand of the Cause of God Enoch Olinga visited during the month of November and inspired the members of the Bahá'í communities on the Islands.

"At Lomanikoro in the river delta area, a formal presentation of a whale's tooth was made to a representative of the Provincial Council on behalf of the Bahá'í Faith, and Mr. Olinga, in this way, ensured an opening for future teachers to visit the villages in the area. A beautiful spirit prevailed...there is no doubt of the great love of the Fijian people for Mr. Olinga, and more especially so since the indigenous Fijians believe that their ancestors came from Tanganyika in Africa. Their hearts melted and tears filled their eyes as Mr. Olinga assured them that in Africa the people know this also, and he had come to convey their love and greetings and hoped that they would one day return to visit their homelands. In reply their leaders assured the Bahá'ís that future Bahá'í teachers and visitors would be welcomed to their villages."

"The attraction of Mr. Olinga was shown by the children who gathered around him in the town areas, and even in the shops and in the streets, people could not resist speaking to him — they had seen his picture in the paper and heard the radio announcements — this distinguished, loving, friendly man from Africa, a member of the Bahá'í Faith."

A report with regard to Mr. Olinga's visit to New Caledonia enthusiastically stated that, "...the situation in New Caledonia and Ouvea (Loyalties) will never be quite the same again."

"That a member of the Institution of the Hands should be of the same colour and have also come from a tribal background were two facts which alone were enough to make his visit a never-to-be-forgotten experience for the majority of the believers in these islands, Melanesian in race and also from differing tribes — but it was Mr. Olinga's love for all alike and his sheer simplicity that shone and warmed all — black and white believers alike, that cheered everyone, encouraged us to continue the work of the Cause and left everyone feeling that bit more able to carry on and do better."

"As a Melanesian member said to European fellow-members of the Area Teaching Committee, 'It is good to have a man like us — a coloured man come — I am not colour prejudiced you understand — but it makes the Faith more real to us all'."

"...Mr. Olinga's wonderful ability to speak simply, using local objects to illustrate his talk enabled even the least educated to understand everything he was saying and they listened with rapt attention."

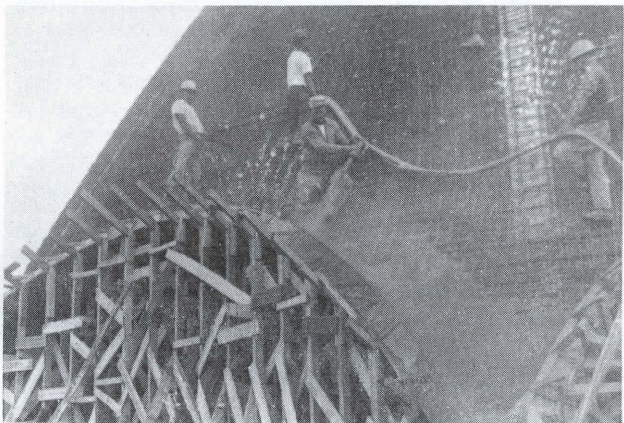
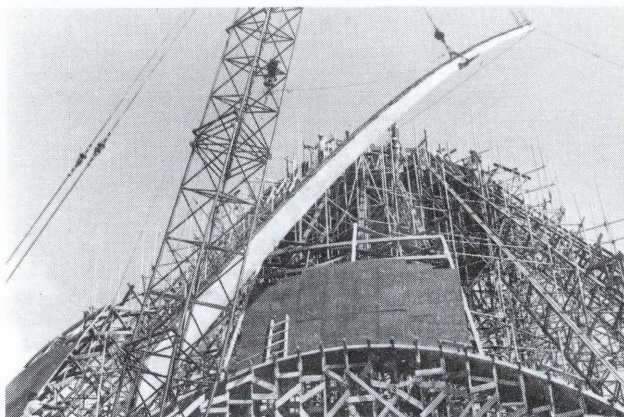
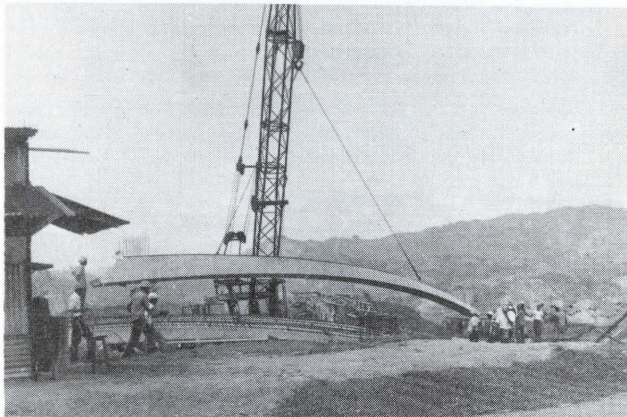
The beloved Hand of the Cause arrived in Papua and New Guinea on 2 December and the report of his visit there stated, "...Mr. Olinga was taken to a village close to Goroka, Arufa, where the majority of the residents are Bahá'ís and where the Teaching Institute is to be built. ...The houses in the village are made of plaited sugar cane and grass. Approximately thirty of the Bahá'ís gathered to meet the Hand of the Cause and seated on a log he addressed them in loving and simple terms. It was very moving to see the faces of the village people in their amazement at his presence among them. Mr. Olinga remarked that these people reminded him very much of the bushmen of Mozambique. He said what a miracle it was that the Message of Bahá'u'lláh had come so far..."



THE PANAMA TEMPLE

At the bottom of the Temple site is the Lions Club Camp of Panama. Various organisations sponsor groups of under-privileged children for week-long camping trips during the summer months. One day, Temple engineer Paul Thiele saw a group of moving heads just visible in the deep grass; as they approached he could see it was a group of small boys, some waving white handkerchiefs tied to sticks, assuring him they came in peace. They excitedly explained that they had been watching the enormous building under construction and decided to find out what it was. Paul had a fireside with the youngsters and gave them some pamphlets. All were impressed with what they had learned, promised they would return and happily started back down the mountainside.

The following photographs show the development of the construction work.



EDITORIAL

To economise on paper and postage, a cheaper paper was used for the Annual Report and the 'Convention Special' issue. However, the quality of the reproduction of photographs has caused us to revert to the original weight of paper. This issue is very short of photographs: good quality prints portraying important events are much needed for the Journal.

The **DEADLINE DATE** for material for the next issue of the Journal is:—

**19 JULY 1971**

Material should be sent to the Editor:

Mrs. Lois Hainsworth,  
'Treen'  
Allerton Park, Leeds LS7 4ND.

ALL ASSEMBLIES AND GROUPS TO NOTE:—

The National Office need to know at **once** the **minimum** number of Bahá'í Journals required by every assembly and group. Rising costs of paper, ink and labour have increased the total cost of each issue; an increase in the number of believers demands a larger 'run' each time. Please try to share copies so that only one comes to each family. Failure to advise the National Office may deprive some Bahá'ís of their copies or cause a serious reduction in the number of issues per year as an exact number of copies is printed.

Please send this information to the National Office and **NOT** to the Editor, as the envelopes are prepared and numbered in London and despatched in Yorkshire.

SUMMER SCHOOLS IN EUROPE: 1971

AUSTRIA	Freistadt, Upper Austria (near Linz)	August 21/28
BELGIUM/ France	Joint School, see below	
BRITISH ISLES	Monkstown, Republic of Ireland (near Dublin)	July 17/31
	St. Andrews, Scotland	July 31/ August 14
FINLAND	Kisalinn, near Savonlinna	July 1/4
FRANCE	Joint School with Belgium, Orleans, France	August 21/29
GERMANY	Hustadt, near Celle	July 17/25
ITALY	Valverde di Cesenatico, near Rimini	September 4/12
LUXEMBOURG	Vianden	June 19/20
NETHERLANDS	De Kapellerput, Heeze bij Weert, North Brabant	July 3/10
PORTUGAL	Mira, near Coimbra	June 10/13
SWEDEN, for Scandinavia	Jorlanda, near Gothenburg	June 22/27

ATENTU TUTAJ ESPERANTISTOJ

It is hoped that the Universal Congress to be held in London during the summer of this year will be attended by some of the Bahá'ís who speak Esperanto and that they will use the occasion to proclaim the Faith.



## CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

The National Spiritual Assembly met immediately during Convention and, to help maintain the wonderful impetus achieved during the past few months, resolved to give early attention to all the resolutions passed at Convention. This has been done and these are now published for the information of all the friends. The resolution is shown first and this is followed by the decision of the National Spiritual Assembly.

- 1 It was agreed that the film 'It's Just the Beginning' should be shown to delegates at 9.30 on Sunday morning, commencing promptly so that the period for consultation was not affected.
- 2 The following Tellers were appointed: Mabel Joseph, Geoff Bridle, Moojan Momen, Hoomen Momen, Wendy Ayoub, Ted Cardell, Hassan Afnan, Barney Leith.
- 3 The Annual Report was presented, arising from which there were some resolutions:—
  - a) Pioneer Committee: The committee was asked to note the need for publishing the full list of pioneers.  
NOT AGREED.
  - b) Travel Teaching Committee: The committee was asked to note the need to defer to the local assemblies in the area of the teachers' visits.  
NOTED AND ACTIONED BY NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES.
  - c) Publishing Trust: Convention stressed the need for one book about the Faith to be generally available in the bookshops.  
NOT A PRACTICAL PROPOSITION
  - d) Guardian's Grave: Suggested that a plaque explaining the significance of the grave should be affixed to the gates and 'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánúm's views be obtained.  
NOT APPROVED AS THE NSA DID NOT CONSIDER THE USE OF A PLAQUE BEFITTING THE RESTING PLACE OF THE GUARDIAN.
  - e) 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Chair: It was recommended that the chair used by 'Abdu'l-Bahá during His visit to London, which now stands in the NSA room, should be renovated.  
BEING ACTIONED
  - f) The Annual Report was accepted by Convention.
- 4 Asks the NSA to consider urgently the reinforcement by pioneer moves of those goal towns which have only one or two believers, and also the Island goals outside the home front, so that an effective nucleus can be established in each as a platform for vigorous teaching.  
APPROVED AND PASSED TO THE NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES AND THE PIONEER COMMITTEE FOR THEIR ACTION.
- 5 Asks the NSA to encourage the dispersal of large communities, in consultation with the Pioneer Committee, not only to goal towns but into the immediately surrounding areas, so as to establish additional localities. It is recommended that each LSA be asked to open two or more specific localities, to arrange for sustained teaching activity and publicity in these localities and to foster their growth towards the formation of additional LSAs beyond those called for in the Plan.  
APPROVED AND PASSED TO REGIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES FOR ACTION.
- 6 Asks the NSA to continue to encourage pioneer moves and to back these with more intensive teaching sustained by prayer so that the present increased momentum is not permitted to die out.  
APPROVED AND PASSED TO NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES FOR ACTION.
- 7 Asks the NSA to give serious study not only to what has happened in Peterborough but to the planning for mass teaching over several years which has recently come to fruition in the USA.  
APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE.
- 8 Asks the NSA to give particular attention to the stimulation of believers in the goal towns in order to release their potential for teaching the Faith and so win the goals mainly by teaching.  
APPROVED AND PASSED TO THE NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

- 9 Asks the NSA within the next few months to send pioneers to open every remaining county in the British Isles delineated in the Nine Year Plan.  
DECISION DEFERRED PENDING REPORTS FROM THE NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES.
- 10 Asks the NSA to give priority to the appointment of the National Youth Committee and to arrange early consultation with them about mass teaching.  
APPROVED AND ACTIONED.
- 11 Asks the NSA to ask the National Youth Committees to encourage groups of young people known to have the necessary audacity to go to goal towns and apply direct methods of teaching.  
APPROVED AND NOTED THAT ACTION HAD ALREADY BEEN TAKEN BY THE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEES.
- 12 Recommends that the NSA obtains at least one more copy of the film, 'It's Just the Beginning, and make the maximum use of it as a teaching medium.  
APPROVED AND TWO MORE COPIES HAVE BEEN ORDERED.
- 13 Asks that the NSA provides funds for a mobile Bahá'í environment which would include film, music and a Bahá'í exhibition and which would involve youth.  
DECISION DEFERRED PENDING REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEES STUDYING THIS MATTER.
- 14 Asks that in order to implement the instruction of the House of Justice to devise attractive programmes, the NSA gives serious thought to more extensive use of films, music and drama for teaching the Faith.  
APPROVED AND PASSED TO THE NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES AND NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEES FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION.
- 15 Recommends that our available literature should be reviewed bearing in mind the need for simple introductory books and leaflets about the Faith in the field of mass teaching.  
APPROVED.
- 16 Asks the NSA to give urgent attention to the production of methods for the deepening and consolidation of new young believers, including the use of music.  
APPROVED AND REFERRED TO THE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEES.
- 17 Asks that the NSA call upon the experience of Bahá'ís in countries where there has been mass teaching and involvement, particularly as to the availability and free issue of adequate supplies of introductory leaflets and a new type of declaration card.  
NOTED AND BEING STUDIED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.
- 18 Asks that the NSA encourage the friends everywhere to make more generous donations to the International Fund and at the same time consider whether the NSA can make a greater contribution to the International fund from the National Fund.  
APPROVED.
- 19 Asks that the NSA urge all local assemblies, in accordance with the guidance of the beloved Guardian, to "empty themselves like a fountain which is then replenished from an invisible source" and continually to give their balances to the National and International Funds.  
APPROVED.
- 20 Asks the NSA to ensure that in order to deepen the believers in the understanding of the Faith, the guidance given by the Guardian to the British community should be studied and implemented by new and more effective methods of teaching.  
APPROVED AND PASSED TO THE NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES.
- 21 Recommends that in the approach to 'entry by troops' it should be remembered that if youth are restricted by pre-conceived ideas of adults, nothing will be achieved and that the need for close integration of every section of the community should be borne in mind in order to avoid the danger of polarisation of the community into two sections, youth on the one hand and older Bahá'ís on the other.  
AGREED AND PASSED TO THE NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES AND NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEES.



- 22 Asks the NSA to take positive steps to implement the suggestion made by Shomais Afnan to maintain contact with and sustain the spiritual health of young Persians and others from overseas newly arrived in this country.  
IMPLEMENTED
- 23 Asks the NSA to take advantage of the fact that the Universal Congress of Esperantists is to be held in London this summer and to use this occasion for Proclamation purposes and to extend an invitation to Dr. Mühlischlegel, who speaks Esperanto, to come to London at that time.  
ALTERNATIVE ACTION BEING TAKEN.
- 24 Asks the NSA to explore the possibility, with the aid of Bahá'í economists, to establish in England a similar monetary institution to that which operates for the Bahá'ís in Persia and in which many of the friends have shares, as there would be very great material advantage both for individual Bahá'ís and the Bahá'í Fund.  
NOT APPROVED.
- 25 Asks the NSA to explore the possibility of setting up, initially in the London area, a youth centre run by Bahá'ís to which the young Bahá'ís could invite their guests and eventually to explore the possibility of securing capital grants and grants for running expenses from the Department of Education and Science.  
NOT APPROVED, AS WE CONSIDERED THE YOUTH STRENGTH IN LONDON INSUFFICIENT TO SUPPORT SUCH A PROJECT.
- 26 Asks the NSA to encourage all communities to re-establish contact with Bahá'í friends whom they do not see very often.  
AGREED.
- 27 Conscious that the Faith is not yet adequately represented in every stratum of society, Convention asks the NSA to set up special committees to consider the problem of taking the Faith to both the titled aristocracy on the one hand and to the working masses on the other and, further, to give special attention to the problems presented by other echelons of society.  
REFERRED TO THE NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEES FOR STUDY AND REPORT.
- 28 On receiving the Financial Report, Convention recorded deep appreciation of the excellent work done by the Treasurer, Mrs. Betty Goode, in her first year of office. A vote of thanks was also passed for the way in which the Auditor, Mr. Kenneth Smith, has so patiently handled the rather complex and difficult work of the Baha'i accounts over so many years.  
NOTED, AND WE AGREED TO WRITE TO THE AUDITOR, MR. KENNETH SMITH, EXPRESSING OUR APPRECIATION OF THE WORK HE HAS DONE FOR US.
- 29 Convention records its great joy at the winning of the two LSA goals in the Republic of Ireland which will make possible the formation of the NSA there next Ridván, the third NSA which will have been brought into existence by the British NSA. It would also like to record its deep gratitude to Adib Taherzadeh at his last Convention as a member of the British community. Serving as a pioneer in Ireland for twenty years he has made a wonderful contribution to the work in the whole of the British Isles, both as an NSA member and as a travel teacher.  
NOTED WITH PLEASURE.

### LEICESTER BAHÁ'Í CENTRE

Friends visiting Leicester should note that the Bahá'í Centre there is only one room in the house of the Prince family. Although it is a large house the entire top floor has been rented by the Publishing Trust so there is no available space to accommodate Bahá'í visitors. It is embarrassing for Bill, Gwen and Mary to have to refuse accommodation requests, and the friends are asked to note the position so as to relieve them from their embarrassment.

THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

### REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Over the weekend of March 6/7 we were very happy to welcome the Continental Board of Counsellors to Dublin, where they held their meeting in the Hazíratu'l-Quds. On the Saturday evening the Friends gathered to meet the Counsellors. A very joyful evening was spent together, when the Counsellors outlined for us their plans for Europe in the coming months and the Youth in particular were inspired by this gathering. Happily Miss Annelise Bopp was able to remain in Ireland for some days after the meeting, and travelled around meeting the communities and talking with them.

The last in this series of weekend schools on Administration, leading up to the formation of our two new local assemblies, was held on 27/28 March — we were happy to welcome George Bowers on this occasion, and most of the believers in the Republic participated in an interesting and informative weekend of talks and workshops guided by Adib and George Bowers.

During March we welcomed May Hoffman, who made a lively and interesting travel teaching trip, which included a weekend school held half in Cork and half in Limerick. We are grateful to Keith Munro and Malcolm Lake from Londonderry, Northern Ireland who have both recently visited the Republic.

It was with great joy that the Irish believers witnessed the formation of the local assemblies of Cork and Limerick at Ridván, thus completing the goal of four local assemblies necessary for the formation of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Republic of Ireland at Ridván 1972. We are filled with gratitude to Bahá'u'lláh for the sacrifices made by so many believers from the British Isles who have come to Ireland as pioneers and settled in their posts with such love and spirit.

The last remaining gaps were filled by the moves of John and Val Morley to Cork; Sally Villers-Stuart to Dun Laoghaire, enabling Roberta Strain to go to Limerick (this combined effort was the result of a special consultation called by the Goals Committee for the believers of Dun Laoghaire and Dublin, with the specific purpose of trying to find Pioneers for Limerick) and finally of Jim Elliott, also to Limerick.

On 8/9 May we had the great privilege of spending a truly beautiful weekend in Dublin with Hand of the Cause Dr. Ugo Giachery and his wife. Dr. Giachery brought us so much love and talked so very movingly on many subjects — especially appreciated were the memories he shared with us of the life and work of the Beloved Guardian, Shoghi Effendi. On the Monday following, Dr. Giachery visited Limerick, and met with two new enquirers there — a week later one of the enquirers and two more friends whom he had told of the Faith declared their belief in Bahá'u'lláh!!! Since this time Limerick has been the scene of many exciting Firesides and a growing number of enquirers are being attracted to the Faith. A weekend school has been arranged by the local spiritual assembly of Limerick for 29/30 May to deepen this newly aroused interest and to intensify the feelings of love and joy which have been awakened in so many hearts.

GOALS COMMITTEE OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRELAND



First Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Cork.  
Back row, left to right: Peter Trundle, John Morley, Stephen Ader, John Charles Turner, John C. Turner. Front row: Mrs. Val Morley, Mrs. Shirin Ader, Mrs. Louise Turner. The ninth member and the first Baha'i in Cork is Mrs. Maude Bennett, who has been in hospital for some years.



**STOP PRESS****HAND OF THE CAUSE  
MR. WILLIAM SEARS**

It is deeply regretted that our beloved Hand, Mr. William Sears, has had to return to America for medical treatment and it has been necessary for him to cancel all his European activities. All references to his attendance at meetings in this country should therefore be ignored. He asks for our prayers.

**ENTRY BY TROOPS**

"Are we in Britain about to witness that entry by troops' promised by the beloved Master?" This is the question being asked on all sides. Does the accelerating enrolment of new believers indicate that a new method of teaching has been found, or that the people of Britain are now more eager in their search for the answer to their problems? Is it possible that in the year of the fiftieth anniversary of the Master's passing, the opening of the Formative Age of our Faith and the sixtieth year after the first visit He made to these shores, we are at long last to reap some of the harvest from the seeds He so lovingly planted and fulfil the promises He so confidently made? Is it just a coincidence that at this very time, as the excitement begins to rise, the Universal House of Justice should call upon the British National Spiritual Assembly to set up a new structure for the stimulation of the teaching work throughout the British Isles? The call to have a strong National Teaching Committee and a number of Regional Teaching Committees has indeed come at the very time we need to look again at the needs of the people as there is no doubt, when we study the perilous state of the world, that time is indeed running out. Perhaps our old approach to teaching has to change; perhaps we must look again at the machinery of accepting new believers; perhaps even the time is so short that we need rapidly to change our views and methods to work and plan actively for mass conversion.

The new structure set up by the National Spiritual Assembly has exciting possibilities. People are brought directly into the process of stimulating teaching; closer links are possible between all groups and assemblies; more movement between communities is to be encouraged; strong communities will be better able to help the weaker ones to achieve Goals and, by extension teaching, open new localities and even establish 'bonus' assemblies. By these closer links at regional level the National Assembly itself and the National Teaching and National Youth Committees will be able to give more consultative time to creative planning for victory.

**The New Structure**

Two National Teaching Committees were appointed:—  
The National Teaching Committee (United Kingdom);  
The National Teaching Committee (Republic of Ireland).

The National Teaching Committee (United Kingdom) has seven Regional Teaching Committees to encourage and co-ordinate; the present set-up is as follows:—

**NTC (UK)**

Philip Hainsworth — Chairman  
Kianoush Kouchekezadeh — Vice Chairman  
Shahram Mottahed — Secretary  
Kenneth Goode — Treasurer  
Barbara Lewis — Member

The Goals Committees for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are now replaced by Regional Teaching Committees for these territories. In addition, England is divided into four areas:

**North:** Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmorland, Durham, Lancashire, Cheshire and all of Yorkshire except Sheffield and its immediate environs. It is also responsible for the goal town of Bangor and for the establishment of a group in the Isle of Man. Presently there are eighteen assemblies and a large number of groups and isolated believers in this area.

**Midlands:** Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Rutland, Leicestershire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Northamptonshire, Huntingdonshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Herefordshire, Gloucestershire. Bristol and its environs will not be included but the area of Sheffield and its environs is in this region. There are presently twelve assemblies and the goals of Derby, Kidderminster and Oakham have to be achieved and Northampton re-established.

**South and West:** Cornwall, Devonshire, Somerset, Dorset, Hampshire, Wiltshire, Berkshire, the Isle of Wight and Bristol and its environs.

There are presently eleven assemblies and there are the goals of Ryde and St. Austell to be achieved.

**London and East:** Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, Essex, Hertfordshire, Surrey, Kent, Sussex and Middlesex or Greater London. This is an exceptionally heavily populated region with twenty-three assemblies, many groups and isolated believers and has been given the goal of achieving an assembly in Jersey.

These Regional Committees have five members each with the exception of Wales which has six and London and East which has seven. Their secretaries and travel teaching officers will be announced in the next 'Journal'.

Each Regional Committee has eight terms of reference which cover close co-operation with all assemblies and groups in its region; being responsible to the National Teaching Committee for the achievement of its goals, the increase of localities and the maintenance of all assemblies; the special encouragement of Youth activity; the organisation of at least one regional conference in the early part of the year; the preparation of news items for the Nineteen Day Newsletter, reports for the 'Journal' and the passing of information around its regions; Minutes will be sent to the National Teaching Committee and the overall planning of financial matters will be subject to approval by the National Teaching Committee; special attention will also be given to the circulation of travelling teachers.

To implement this last term of reference, a special officer is to be appointed who will be responsible for the routing of teachers particularly those coming from outside the region. The National Teaching Committee itself has set up machinery for handling teachers and visitors from other countries, but once a visitor is passed to the region, the Regional Teaching Committee officer is fully responsible for all meetings, accommodation and travel etc.

**Conference of Regional Committee Members**

On the 10/11 July in Manchester a unique conference will be held. All Regional Teaching Committees have been invited to attend a three-session conference with the National Teaching Committee. The National Youth Committee (UK) will also be represented and it is hoped that Hand of the Cause William Sears will be able to attend during his brief visit to the British Isles. The National Teaching Committee will meet in the morning and in the early afternoon will consult with the National Youth Committee, the Proclamation Committee and a representative of the Bahá'í Publishing Trust on the production of new material for mass conversion. At 4 pm the conference opens and this will be followed by a detailed review of the new committee set-up. After dinner each region will report on its region and it is hoped that this will give us all a really up-to-date picture of the strength and weaknesses of the Bahá'í community in the United Kingdom. Sunday morning will be devoted to 'Forward Planning' and here we will look at planning for mass conversion, audacity in teaching and all that this means, what to plan for at Teaching Conferences and what are the main objectives of our work this year. It is hoped that the Hand of the Cause and the National Youth Committee will participate fully in this important session.

After lunch the National Youth Committee will take over and it is hoped that the friends from all over the region will flock in large numbers to make the afternoon and evening periods really outstanding.

**Youth Projects**

In general, it is the policy of the National Teaching Committee to give precedence to youth activity. The emphasis being placed on youth work by the Universal House of Justice for Europe; the youth activities being launched and encouraged by the Board of Counsellors; the successes being achieved on the American Continent in Canada, the United States and South America mainly by young people, all indicate that their freedom, their audacity and courage as well as their devotion to the Faith can open doors which until now have seemed tightly closed. That they may achieve similar success in these Islands when supported and encouraged is indicated by the results in Peterborough and Oakham.

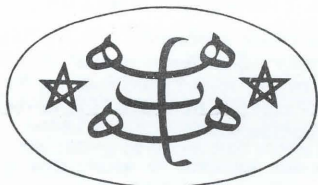
In particular, there are two projects now being launched in Goal areas which call for our full support, not only by our prayers, but by practical help.



In Jersey and in St. Austell, from 3 July right through until the end of August, teams of youth will be living in these places, teaching, singing, loving, and all the time seeking to bring new souls to the knowledge of Baha'u'llah. They will need the help of the older and perhaps more experienced believers. This, therefore, is an appeal to all the believers in the British Isles. If you have any free time; if you have not yet settled your holidays, can you consider these two holiday resorts? It will be much more than a holiday; it will be an introduction to a new and exciting way of serving the Cause; it may well make history, for, if successful, the way may open for real 'entry by troops'. Success in these goal towns could well spark off similar moves in other parts of Britain. These are glorious opportunities. How often have we older Bahá'ís longed for the day when we should spend all our time teaching; when people will flock to hear us, when they will cry out to hear more of Bahá'u'lláh? This is a possibility today. Are we ready for it? Are we geared up for mass acceptance of the Faith? Are we yet prepared for that 'entry by troops' which the beloved Guardian said could happen in these very islands "...provided that a determination no less unyielding and a dedication no less whole-hearted and complete will be displayed by those who have already won such memorable victories in such far-off and inhospitable regions of the globe..." (written sixteen years ago as the mass conversion in Africa began to get under way).




The newly formed National Teaching Committee is convinced that such victories are within our grasp, that such a determination and such a dedication are now being evinced by the British Bahá'í community: it is our prayer that we can befittingly make our contribution towards the achievement of complete victory.


#### National Teaching Committee



#### THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RINGSTONE SYMBOL

If your friends wish to know the meaning of the symbol, you may wish to explain that the three levels represent:

- the world of God, the Creator 
- the world of His Manifestations , and
- the world of man .

The vertical line  joins the three horizontal bars together, in the same way as that the Divine Messengers of God form the link between the world of God and the world of man.

The twin five-pointed stars ☆☆ on either side of the design represent the Báb and Bahá'u'lláh, the twin Messengers of God for this age.

A more detailed explanation of the design has been given by Hand of the Cause of God Abu'l-Qasim Faizi, on pages 8 to 10 of American *Bahá'í News*, issue of October 1968.

Briefly, Mr. Faizi says the symbol explains graphically that followers of all religions believe that man, left to himself, can never recognize God and attain His presence. Nor is man able to fathom the mystery and purpose of his own creation. God, in His illimitable bounty, singles out His Manifestations, sending Them to man at different times and places in order to grant penetrating insight to man and to enable him to have a glimpse of the unfading glories of the innumerable worlds beyond.

#### SALES COMMITTEE

44 Highbank, Brighton BN1 5GB.

Beautiful new Bahá'í rings and pins are now available at a price of 88 new pence. They are attractively designed for both men and women and have a simple elegance. The symbol of the Most Great Name is a faithful reproduction of the pattern as it appears at the top of the scalloped corners of the Shrine of the Báb on Mount Carmel.

#### HELP NEEDED

**ROYAL NATIONAL WELSH EISTEDDFOD,**  
Bangor, North Wales  
Monday, August 2 to Saturday, August 7

The Bahá'ís have had a stand at the Eisteddfod for several years now, but this year it is particularly important as the Eisteddfod is to take place in the goal town of Bangor. It is necessary to make definite arrangements beforehand for the manning of the Bahá'í display and offers of assistance, either for the whole week or part of it would be gratefully received. Please contact either Mr. Gordon Grant, 552a Wilbraham Road, Chorlton cum Hardy, Manchester 21, or Mrs. Nora Maude, Talley, Penglais Road, Aberystwyth, Cards, as soon as possible.

#### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

- ..... Forty-eight Declarations were accepted at one meeting.
- ..... A simplified Declaration Card has been approved.
- ..... Action has been taken on all Convention resolutions.
- ..... An Audio/Visual Committee has been formed.
- ..... Thirty-two Committees, the Public Relations Officers, and three one-person agencies have been appointed.
- ..... The approved theme of the Teaching Conference, United Kingdom, 8/9 January, 1972 is 'Unprecedented increase in numbers'.
- ..... A special meeting has been called for the National Teaching Committee (UK) to meet with representatives of the National Youth Committee (UK); Proclamation Committee and Publishing Trust in Manchester on the 10 July to review existing material and prepare new in anticipation of 'entry by troops'. A large quantity of free literature has already been made available.
- ..... Initial plans have been made for the Fiftieth anniversary of the Passing of the Master and the birth of the Formative Age.

#### PROCLAMATION COMMITTEE

##### Presentation Publicity:

Some communities have enquired whether they should attempt to seek publicity from their presentation efforts.

The National Assembly is anxious that publicity should not be deliverately sought, but that if the opportunity should present itself, only publicity of the most dignified and discreet kind would be acceptable. The National Assembly also emphasises that before agreeing to any publicity involving the names of non-Bahá'ís to whom presentations have been made, these recipients must be contacted by the assembly or group concerned and their full consent obtained.

##### Seals and Crofts:

The April visit of the American Bahá'í singing duo 'Seals and Crofts' (Jim Seals and Dash Crofts) provided a great booster to the Proclamation effort in Britain. Much invaluable publicity was gained for the Faith, including a twenty-minute interview with the disc-jockey 'Kid' Jensen on Radio Luxembourg, which in no time at all turned into a Bahá'í 'fireside'. The British musical press were warmly appreciative of the concert appearances of Seals and Crofts and of their album 'Down Home'. There seems little doubt that a return visit would be eagerly welcomed in the 'pop' world. Their all too brief tour included a visit to the now historic Peterborough Youth Conference, where they gave a concert of their Bahá'í songs. Needless to say, these were rapturously received by the audience of Youth, most particularly a beautiful song called 'Year of Sunday' which as yet has not been recorded and which includes several lines of the Tablet of Ahmad. The entire visit was filmed in 16mm by Rodney Charters and John Walsh, the intention being to produce a twenty-five minute documentary film for teaching purposes. Jim and Dash endeared themselves to all the friends who met them through their warm personalities and enthusiasm and devotion to the Faith. We hope they will be returning to us very soon.



## A MEASURE OF FAITH

Beloved Friends,

Now that Convention is over and, with renewed vigour, we set out to complete the goals of the Nine Year Plan, we must remember the effort required to complete the goals this year will inevitably call for greater financial support if we are to be successful.

It is evident that the chill wind of the financial inflation affecting the whole world is being felt in the Bahá'í world and donations to the Funds are not keeping pace with either the growth of the numbers of believers, or the pressing needs of the Faith in the tremendous tasks we have in front of us. These tasks must be completed before it is too late. It is upon our efforts, to a very large extent, that the fate of the world hangs.

During the years 126 and 127 it was necessary to sell some of the securities, bequeathed to us by Bahá'í friends, to close the gap between income and expenditure and at the present time we can no longer fall back on these reserves. Monies tied up in securities have been set aside for specific commitments overseas and these are part of our Nine Year Plan goals. If we are to honour these commitments the securities we now have left must be kept intact. In addition to this, certain sums of money have been donated for the Home Front pioneers and it is unthinkable that we should have to use this money for any other purpose than that for which it was donated.

Every day prices are rising — postage, rates, cost of fuel, train fares, food, nearly every ordinary thing in our lives. Old, young, rich and poor alike are affected as costs continue to rise, and in some cases incomes fall, but it would be a sad situation if the National Assembly had to say that all the work of the Cause must be suspended because of lack of Funds, the very 'life blood' of our beloved Cause. This is the time when we have the glorious chance to move joyously forward and demonstrate the measure of our Faith. This is the time when, despite rising costs in our personal expenditure, we must place our whole confidence and trust in Bahá'u'lláh and **INCREASE** our donations to the Funds. Without this increase both the work at the World Centre and the work of the Cause in these islands will assuredly slow up.

In the appeal to the Bahá'ís of the World, the Universal House of Justice called upon the really poor Bahá'í friends to support the Fund, for they said that small contributions, like small drops of water when coming together form a mighty river, and that this mighty river would carry forward the work of the Cause. To those friends who feel they have little to give, please give something, so that these precious drops will become a mighty river, and everyone will become united in giving to the Fund.

\*Many friends who send small contributions do so by postal order. To reduce the cost and to make it easier for everyone, the National Assembly has opened an account with the National Giro. Our number is 43 301 4008. Even if you have not a Giro

account it is cheaper to contribute this way. The cost is about 4½ new pence for those who have no account of their own and nothing for those who have. If a friend in your community has a Giro account it will cost them nothing if you ask them to send the money for you. This is much cheaper than paying poundage on Postal Orders and the cost of an envelope and a stamp when you send your Postal Orders to the National Treasurer, who hopes that there will soon be a mighty rush to contribute to the Funds this way.

For those friends who pay income tax the most valuable way to make contributions to the Fund is by deed of covenant, details of which appeared in the December 1970, No. 202, Bahá'í Journal. If you want to start a covenant, please write either to Mr. John Morphew, 41 High Street, Hoddesdon, Herts., or the National Treasurer. There was an increase in the number of friends donating by covenant last year and we hope there will be a further increase this year.

Finally, a reminder to both treasurers of assemblies and groups and individuals that:—

- 1 Cheques and Postal Orders should be made out to 'N.S.A. of the Bahá'ís' (please not to 'Betty Goode.').
- 2 The source of the donation should be clearly stated, i.e. by name or, if from an assembly, the name of the assembly.
- 3 Both cheques and Postal Orders should be crossed.
- 4 It is not wise to send cash in an ordinary envelope through the post.
- 5 If the donation is a covenant payment, this should be clearly stated.
- 6 Receipts are always sent (provided an address is sent with the donation) unless the contrary is requested by the donor, but it helps the treasurer more than can be realised if a stamped, addressed envelope is included and it helps the Fund as well.

Let us all together create a situation that the fire of our love for the Blessed Beauty will so warm us that the 'chill winds' of inflation will not be felt in the Bahá'í world. For we Bahá'ís money is a very spiritual gift from God. Let us remember these words of the beloved Guardian.

"We must be like the fountain or spring that is continually emptying itself of all that it has, and is continually being refilled from an invisible source. To be continually giving out for the good of our fellows undeterred by the fear of poverty and reliant on the unfailing bounty of the Source of all wealth and all good — that is the secret of right living."

With deepest love to you all,  
In His service,

National Treasurer,  
Betty Goode, 8 Knowle Road, Stafford.

\*Giro does not apply to the Republic of Ireland.

## IRISH SUMMER SCHOOL URGENT NOTICE

All those registering or thinking of registering for the Summer School should note that there has been an important printing error in the Brochure (back page). It should read that the School does not provide **Sheets and Towels**. Those attending are **not** required to take Blankets. There are still some vacancies but please book immediately.

## DURHAM WEEKEND SCHOOL

3/4 July: Alington House, Durham;  
10.00 am Saturday - 1.00 pm Sunday

Accommodation will be available at 75p per person for bed and breakfast.

Please report to 48 Western Hill. It would be appreciated if you could let us know in advance whether you are able to come. Bring a sleeping bag if you can.

Kari-Ann Christopherson (Secretary)  
48 Western Hill, Durham.



Photograph by permission of the Epsom and Ewell Herald. Hand of the Cause, Dr. Ugo Giachery and Mrs. Giachery photographed with Anne and Phillip Hinton during a visit to Epsom. This picture was published, with a few words about Dr. Giachery, in the local Epsom newspaper.



## NATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE

### Peterborough

The National Youth Committee would like to thank all those who helped at the Youth Convention and Spring Conference at Peterborough, especially the Chairman, Moojan Momen, and all the speakers, who did a great job of inspiring the youth.

### Namur

The Youth Congress held in Belgium from 10 to 13 April was a most exciting and inspiring occasion. Altogether there were sixteen European national communities represented, from as far apart as Iceland and Spain. The total attendance was over 150.

The congress itself was guided by the loving care of three of the European Counsellors, Mrs. Betty Reed, Mrs. Annaliese Bopp and Monsieur Louis Henuzet.

Never before in the history of the Faith had all the European countries come together to consult. This being a unique occasion it was only natural that the topic for consultation was unique; that being to lay the plans for the promised ENTRY BY TROOPS in Europe.

The basic structure for this campaign had been previously drawn up by the Universal House of Justice in consultation with the European Continental Board of Counsellors.

This is the structure:

- 1 Conference at Namur, Belgium, made up of representatives of youth from all over Europe.
- 2 Summer School/Conference in Fiesch, Switzerland, July 31 to August 11, for 500 youth.
- 3 A winter conference this year for 1000 youth.
- 4 A summer conference next year for 2000 youth.

At the congress National Youth Committee delegates were split up into five commissions to consult on the planning of the campaign. These were the five commissions dealing with:

- 1 The programme of the Fiesch conference:
- 2 The organisation of the European campaign itself:
- 3 How to support the campaign with literature:
- 4 Publicity for the campaign; TV, Radio, Press, etc.
- 5 The role of Bahá'í youth in society, dealing with the Bahá'í solution to the taking of drugs, low moral standards, service in the armed forces, etc.

After consultation in these commissions reports were made to all the assembled friends and after additional consultation improved the general flow of ideas. One of the most important ideas was that a steering committee, based in Italy, with a delegate from each country, be set up. This committee is to be responsible for the flow of information between all the countries in Europe during the two year campaign. Permission had to be obtained from the Universal House of Justice for the realization of this idea which has since been approved. Also the 500 youth attending Fiesch will teach on the way to the conference and afterwards a huge wave of travel teachers will spread throughout Europe. Special attention will be given to the minority groups, i.e. the Lapps, Basques and Gypsies.

The inspiration for planning such an audacious campaign came from the letter of the Universal House of Justice, published in the May issue of the Bahá'í Journal.

As can be seen, every teaching activity in which the British Bahá'ís take part between now and the Fiesch conference must play its part in inspiring the youth gathered at Fiesch to far greater victories.

It is with this in mind that the following teaching projects are being planned:

- 1 Summer project in Jersey;
- 2 Summer project in St. Austell;
- 3 Oakham Teaching project;
- 4 Individual and National Youth Goals.

### National Youth Plan

As a part of the two year European Teaching Campaign the National Youth Committee have set the following National and individual goals:

#### National Youth Goals for Riqdán 1972

- 1 Increase the number of Local Youth Committees to 30;
- 2 Fifteen regular Bahá'í Firesides to be held in schools;
- 3 £500 to be raised for the National and International Funds;
- 4 £50 to be raised for youth travel teaching in this country;
- 5 Each Local Youth Committee to organise either a deepening or a teaching school;

- 6 Each Local Youth Committee to organise a regular series of visits to a goal town until it becomes an assembly.
- 7 Each Local Youth Committee to organise a project to visit nearby rural areas;
- 8 Inform the Secretary of the National Youth Committee of all activities and of goals achieved.
- 9 PRAY! PRAY! PRAY! Say prayers in the towns you visit. Circumambulate the towns and pray. Every day say the 'Remover of Difficulties'.

### Individual Goals

#### TEACHING

- 1 Hold a fireside at least once every nineteen days;
- 2 Present books, pamphlets, etc. to friends once every 19 days.
- 3 Devote a weekend a month to teaching work.

#### PROCLAMATION

- 4 Proclaim the Faith to at least one person every day:  
EACH ONE — TEACH ONE!

#### DEEPENING

- 5 Study the literature of the Faith (if possible in groups). We suggest you study the following books:  
'Pattern of Bahá'í Life' — for 1 month;  
'Some Answered Questions' — for 3 months;  
'Release the Sun/Dawnbreakers' — for 3 months;  
'Will and Testament of 'Abdu'l Baha'/'Commentary on the Will and Testament' — for 1 month;  
'Wellspring of Guidance' — for 2 months.  
(Two months free! Why not Travel Teach?)
- 6 Learn by heart some prayers — one every Bahá'í month if you can! These should include: One Obligatory Prayer; Remover of Difficulties; a teaching prayer; a prayer for difficulties (Tablet of Ahmad?); a prayer for spiritual growth.

If 500 youth in the country did all this, by the end of this Bahá'í year there would be:

- 1 9500 firesides held;
  - 2 9500 books presented;
  - 3 6000 weekends devoted to teaching;
  - 4 182,500 people told about the Faith.
- PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!  
PROCLAIM! PROCLAIM! PROCLAIM!  
Mass conversion is coming your way.

### Exciting news from Scotland

The first ever Scottish Youth Conference is being held on the weekend of June 26/27 1971 in Dundee, where it is hoped the entire Scottish Youth Community will be present to set into motion their part in the Two Year Youth Teaching Plan for Europe and the National Youth Plan.

The rapidly growing spirit of unity and enthusiasm ignited throughout Europe, now aflame in the hearts of the youthful followers of Bahá'u'lláh in Scotland, will, it is felt, be canalised from this gathering to embark upon a great campaign of teaching for the remaining months of the Nine Year Plan.

We are hoping to have present at the Conference Counsellor for Europe Mrs Betty Reed to assist and support us in our plans.

We look forward to having the friends from England, Wales and Ireland with us on this occasion.

#### Details of Conference

Place — 100 Forthill Road, Broughty Ferry, Dundee, Scotland.  
Directions — No. 8 bus from City Bus Station, adjacent to Rail Station.

Date — 26/27 June, 1971.

Time — Commencing 2.00 pm.

Accommodation — 40p per head with Saturday Supper, Sunday breakfast and lunch. Plenty of floor space — bring a sleeping bag — EVERYONE WELCOME!!!

If there is any youth who would like to participate in the Teaching Projects this Summer in Scotland please drop us a line URGENTLY.

Scottish Regional Youth Committee  
Miss Beryl Hargreaves (Secretary)  
Flat 8, 6 Whitehall Crescent,  
Dundee, Scotland.

We will do all we can to help in this service to Bahá'u'lláh.

With Loving Greetings,  
The Scottish Regional Youth Committee.



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS



## Argentina

"Chaco Project: The Chaco Project was carried out from October 24 to November 1 and was a great success. A team of fifteen Bahá'ís worked on this project and around 300 new believers came into the Faith. Bahá'ís who for the first time participated in this experience came back aflame and moved, eager to form part of future teams. Another team will go out from December 5 to 13 to carry out a consolidation plan to deepen the enrolled Bahá'ís and they will also continue with the expansion work."

## Alaska

Proclamation has begun in the Yukon..Formidable weather of 30 degrees below zero hampered but failed to stop a valiant teaching team who went into this area and doubled the numbers of the believers in the Yukon Basin. The team was faced with uncertain travel arrangements, lack of water, drafty cold floors on which to sleep and all of the problems of a primitive life, coupled with bone chilling cold. They were rewarded with the knowledge that they had taken the Message of Bahá'u'lláh to over 200 persons. In the Yukon Basin it has taken three and one-half years to gain the number of believers that the team won in this victorious trip.

"...Theme Convention spiritually conquer Alaska first Bahá'í country. Alaska felt unfolding light Cause God. Experiencing thrilling developments. Proclamation launched. Five new Local Spiritual Assemblies. Extensive program coming year deepening, administration, youth institutes. Fifty dedicated believers arising committed fulfill convention theme..."

(Extract from cable by National Spiritual Assembly Alaska — dated 5 May, 1971)

## Belize

When the Nine Year Plan was launched Belize, then under the jurisdiction of Guatemala, had one Local Spiritual Assembly. Fifteen believers resided in one locality in that country.

At Ridván, 1967 when the National Spiritual Assembly of Belize was formed, the following Nine Year Plan goals were assigned: Raise the number of Local Spiritual Assemblies to at least eight; and open at least twenty-five localities to the Faith.

"...Joyous Convention. 27 Assemblies, 34 groups, 1,248 Bahá'ís. Consolidation planned..."

(Extract from cable by National Spiritual Assembly Belize — dtd. 2 May 1971)

## Bolivia

"...More than 500 Local Spiritual Assemblies in all departments... More than 11,400 enrolled this year. We are determined to continue exerting efforts..."

(Extract from cable by National Spiritual Assembly Bolivia — dtd. 2 May 1971)

## Brazil

The 50th Anniversary of the introduction of the Faith in Brazil was befittingly commemorated in Salvador, Bahia where a Congress was held with over 300 attending.

At Ridván, 1970 there were 11 Bahá'í communities in the Northeast part of Brazil, made up of a total of 160 Bahá'ís. There are now 3,000 Bahá'ís in the Northeast part of Brazil. Members from two new Indian tribes have been enrolled in the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh and His Banner has been raised by valiant travelling teachers in two new states of Brazil, all in the same area where teaching and deepening have been concentrated recently.

"Fiftieth Anniversary Faith Brazil befittingly celebrated Bahia over three hundred friends thirteen states gathered conference inspired presence beloved maidservant mother community Leonora Armstrong unique link South America heroic age Excellent coverage television press Mayor's representative identified himself spirit Cause new believers municipality now exceed fifteen hundred..."

## Canada

"Hearts filled with joy gratitude Bahá'u'lláh for early victories Canada's share Plan, especially achievement for Icelandic Assemblies. 153 homefront Assemblies. 57 incorporated. Over 750 localities. Overjoyed presence 6 Icelandic representatives. First Eskimo delegate. Dedicate consolidate victories, continue expansion momentum. Over 100 believers mainly youth offer pioneer. Commitment made massive assault French Canada. Universal participation Funds. Eager Canada resources assist victorious completion world conquest fulfill responsibilities Divine Plan."

(Extract from cable by National Spiritual Assembly Canada — dated 3 May, 1971.

## Chad

The new National Spiritual Assembly of Chad, at the time of its formation has exceeded the teaching goals assigned of opening 250 localities to the Cause and raising 50 Local Spiritual Assemblies.

"First Convention Bahá'ís Chad blessed presence the Hand Cause Olinga, Counsellor Samandari. ...Goals achieved 96 Local Spiritual Assemblies. 300 localities, 3,300 believers...Goals set 192 Local Spiritual Assemblies, 1,000 localities. 16 pioneers offer. 10 declarations Convention..."

(Extract from cable by National Spiritual Assembly Chad — dated 3 May, 1971).

## Chile

Among the goals assigned to Chile was that of raising 25 Local Spiritual Assemblies.

"...Forty-two Assemblies, Twenty-seven Mapuche area. Pledge effort duplicate goal..."

## Central Africa

Both the Republic of Chad and the Central African Republic have gained official recognition and registration of the Faith. Each of these countries is destined to have its own National Spiritual Assembly at Ridván, 1971. This vital step, the equivalent of Incorporation, represents an immense victory in view of the difficulties encountered preceding registration.

In Chad, where the number of believers in the capital city of Fort Lamy has reached more than 1,000, application for registration was submitted during 1970 and was rejected on the grounds that no new religious body had been recognized since Chad gained its independence. In an effort to appeal this decision the Bahá'ís of Chad presented literature to many Ministers of the government, most of whom were sympathetic and receptive to the Cause. It was found, however, that a final decision would only rest with the Head of the State.

At the request of the Universal House of Justice, Advocate Aziz Navidi, a pioneer in Mauritius, travelled to Chad to assist the friends by presenting to the authorities a clear picture of the international status of the Faith. Following nearly two weeks of constant, prayerful effort recognition was granted and the By-laws registered and published in the official government journal.

Having completed his mission in Chad, Advocate Navidi arrived in Bangui, the capital city of the Central African Republic, where he was able to consult with the highest authorities regarding the application for registration of the Cause.

A file of documents presenting the principles of the Cause, the world-wide recognition of the Faith, including the grant of consultative status at the United Nations and appreciations from non-Bahá'í notables was compiled and presented to the President of the Republic, General Jean-Bedel Bokassa. Following a study of the file, the President presented it to the Council of Ministers and February 13, in a meeting called only for that purpose, the Council of Ministers approved the registration of the Faith in the Central African Republic.

Immediately following the decision of the Council of Ministers, a radio communique was prepared at the Presidency which was broadcast on each news bulletin for twenty-four hours, in Sango, the national language, as well as in French and English. The radio communique gave a brief history of the Faith, its principles, its non-political character was stressed and basic statistics of the Faith throughout the world, and its status and membership among the non-governmental organisations of the United Nations were presented to the listening public.

Thus, in the Central African Republic the Faith not only gained recognition but was brought to the attention of the entire population of the country, the Head of State and his Ministers. On 24 March, Dr. Victor de Aruajo, Accredited Representative of the Bahá'í International Community to the United Nations, wrote to His Excellency, General Jean-Bedel Bokassa, President of the Central African Republic, to express gratitude for the President's decision to grant official recognition to the Bahá'í Faith in the Central African Republic.

On April 2nd, that letter was read in its entirety as part of the regular news bulletin broadcast from Radio Bangui.



## Colombia

On January 31, the friends in Barranquilla, Colombia, finished their 'Vacation Victory Plan' which brought them 800 new Bahá'ís in the last two months. The total number of believers in Barranquilla is now over 1,300 Bahá'ís since September 15, 1970.

Teaching in the Chaco Region! An effective plan was carried out in the Chaco region in Colombia in which 35 Bahá'í teachers divided up in teams of two or three persons. They scattered into different areas, and within a period of two weeks they enrolled 1,500 new believers and opened up 24 new localities.

## Costa Rica

The Nine Year Plan goals of Costa Rica included the opening of 100 localities to the Faith and the establishment of 45 Local Spiritual Assemblies.

"Eleventh National Convention places feet Bahá'u'lláh beloved Universal House Justice glorious victories. Exceeding teaching goals Nine Year Plan. Fifty Assemblies, one hundred fifteen localities. National incorporation...Gratitude presence Counsellor Lamb..."

## Ecuador

Ecuador was assigned the goal of forming 125 Local Spiritual Assemblies during the Nine Year Plan.

"Joyfully announce formation one-hundred thirty-one Assemblies. Jivaro translations completed...Convention overflowing spirit Bahá'u'lláh pledges total two hundred twenty Assemblies Ridván 1971..."

## El Salvador

"...34 Assemblies achieved all Departments. 109 localities, approximately 2,400 believers. Historic achievement this country. All united in promise next Ridván 261 Assemblies, 600 localities, 25,000 believers..."

From 50 to 100 new believers are accepting the Cause in El Salvador weekly. The friends report that they feel the sense of urgency that drives them to tell everyone about the Blessed Perfection as quickly as possible.

The International Fair of El Salvador is a biennial event now registered as a World's Fair.

A new edition of a Bahá'í pamphlet was published for the occasion. Spot announcements were made daily over four major radio stations, covering the entire country. A non-Bahá'í aviator volunteered to drop leaflets from his plane free of charge for the believers. His offer was accepted and 30,000 leaflets were printed which stated the 12 principles of the Cause and repeated the theme of the Fair booth. These leaflets were dropped over 13 cities from one end of the country to the other. They were designed as invitations to visit the booth at the Fair or to inquire at local Bahá'í Centres for further information about the Faith.

There were an estimated 400,000 visitors to the Fair who were introduced to the name of the Faith and to the name of the Blessed Beauty. The Bahá'ís attending the booth distributed 72,050 pamphlets to people who passed the booth. Thirty-five percent of those receiving literature entered the booth for further information. More than 1,000 people asked for correspondence courses on the Faith, leaving their names and addresses.

The National Spiritual Assembly reports that correspondence has been received with inquiries from persons who received the leaflets dropped over their cities.

The National Proclamation Committee arranged to present programs in 30 towns and cities in conjunction with the Fair and there have been over 300 new believers enrolled. In one town where the Faith had not been previously taught the Bahá'í team arrived at 2.00 pm and at 5.00 pm when the meeting was over there were 104 new believers enrolled.

## Finland

In Heinola an exhibit at Jyrankola Adult Education Centre acquainted over 300 people with the Bahá'í Faith. The Director of a home for the aged asked the Bahá'ís to send a speaker to the home. There was a very lively discussion with many questions. Some of the 26 persons present asked to declare themselves, but were persuaded by the director of the home to investigate more fully before doing so.

(Based on a report from the National Spiritual Assembly of Finland — dated 23 March, 1971).

## Ghana

Proclamation took place at a recent Trade Fair in Ghana. A portion of the report on the Fair reads, "You will be pleased to learn that during the Fair there were approximately 15,000 pamphlets distributed. We did not have any additional ones or they would have gone also. These were handed out very carefully. Only after hearing a short talk about the Faith did they receive a pamphlet. We talked seriously to about 8,000 people. Our booth was more successful than anyone expected. To date we have received about 100 inquiries by mail..."

## Germany

More than 200 participants including 11 pioneers Athens, Rhodes, Crete happy about formation 6 new Assemblies... Presence stimulating...Hand Cause William Sears...New consciousness permeates this Convention. Will surely influence whole German community. Already our efforts are intensifying resulting in pioneers...18 additional teaching teams, 26 travel teachers inside outside Germany..."

## GUATEMALA

"Unified spirited Convention. Doubled Assemblies believers, localities. Recognition Holy Days Primary Schools..."  
(Extract from cable by National Spiritual Assembly Guatemala — dated 4 May, 1971)

## Guinea

In Africa, a continent so dear to the heart of our beloved Guardian; Guinea has been opened to the Cause; the last country of this continent to be opened to the Faith. Despite the repeated efforts of willing pioneers visa problems had prevented the accomplishment of this vital goal.

The National Spiritual Assembly of West Africa joyously reported, "A Guinean national from Freetown, Sierra Leone, has decided to return to Conakry, Guinea (the capital city of Guinea)."

## Hawaiian Islands

Hawaii was assigned the goal of opening to the Cause 27 localities on the homefront, raising each of these to Assembly status. In January, 1971 they had opened 25 localities and had established at Ridván 1970, 17 Local Spiritual Assemblies.

The National Spiritual Assembly of the North West Pacific Ocean, to be formed at Ridván, 1972, a supplementary goal of the Nine Year Plan, is a vital goal. This Assembly will be raised in the area known as Micronesia, consisting of Guam, the Caroline Islands, the Mariana Islands and the Marshall Islands.

"8th National Convention Hawaiian Islands 145 attending...Nine Year Plan goals near completion. Holy Days recognised. 8 Assemblies Micronesia. Goals exceeded there. Pioneers pledged Solomons, Gilberts, Japan. 4 Assemblies homefront. Mass teaching accelerating. Realize World-wide need funds..."

## Jamaica

One of the Nine Year Plan goals assigned to Jamaica was to raise the number of Local Spiritual Assemblies to 18. At Ridván 1970 they had 6.

"Warmest Ridván greetings. Convention successful 23 Assemblies formed over 1,000 enrolments. Supplicating prayers Shrines for success Conference deepening new believers."

## Japan

"...Beginning harvest seeds devotion planted by Agnes Alexander, Japanese believers, pioneers. Joyful news five new Local Spiritual Assemblies Japan, two Local Spiritual Assemblies Okinawa... Seventy new believers last two months...Spirit Convention resulting declaration six, raising total seventy-six..."

In Japan travelling teaching teams are going out to teach the masses. The work is beginning well. In UBE city, near Hiroshima, one of the teams has reported three declarations. Four teams are now working in the south part of Japan and results will no doubt be seen in the near future.

## AUDIO/VISUAL EXPERTS NEEDED.

Will any believer who has had a course of training in Audio/Visual Techniques please get in touch with the National Assembly Secretary giving details of the training and experience.



## PETERBOROUGH

This is a very hastily written account of some of the things which led up to the 'glorious sixteenth' and what has been happening since in Peterborough.

For it was on 16 April 1971 that over forty people put their names on a large sheet of paper to say that they wished to be Bahá'ís. To say that the Peterborough community was bowled over would be the understatement of the year! We quite literally did not know what had hit us, and it is not quite certain as to whether we have fully grasped the situation even as yet.

Through a chain of circumstances which in itself is a story, the National Youth Committee were able to hire King's School in Peterborough for their Spring Conference and School over Easter. Gradually, as the week went by, more and more young people in Peterborough were attracted to the school and joined in their activities. On Friday evening, the last night of the School, the Bahá'í youth put on a show singing many of the wonderful songs that have been composed, preceded by the outstanding new film produced in America called 'It's Just the Beginning'. There was no set talk, just the potent words of Bahá'u'lláh Himself interspersed between the songs, to a quiet background of music. As the last notes of 'Would you give your heart to Bahá'u'lláh?' died away, the audience was invited to come and join them. The youth then stepped down from the stage and mingled with everyone. Then suddenly, one by one at first, then in twos and threes, people went out to where a previously prepared sheet was laid out and signed their names saying they wished to be Bahá'ís. When the grand total was added up at the end of this highly charged evening, over forty names were to be found on the list! It was unbelievable.

Over a dozen of these people have been found to live in various places other than Peterborough, and most of them have got in touch with the Bahá'ís in their locality. Nearly twenty of those living in Peterborough have officially enrolled as Bahá'ís and since that time five more people have become Bahá'ís who were not on the original list. There are new contacts coming along to our activities all the time. What is perhaps one of the most heart-warming things about all this, is that these people, who for the most part are still in their teens, are proving to be of a very fine calibre and have grasped the station of Bahá'u'lláh and the significance of His teachings very quickly indeed.

It is very obvious to us that the time has come when it will no longer take years and years for a person to understand Bahá'u'lláh's teachings and recognise Him — the sort of people who are going to come into the Faith from now on have got minds of quicksilver and we shall have a job keeping up with them! No doubt they will outstrip us in time. In 'Guidance for Today and Tomorrow', the Guardian, talking of the Bahá'í youth, says that they are the ones "who can contribute to decisively to the virility, the purity, and the driving force of the life of the Bahá'í community, and upon whom must depend the future orientation of its destiny, and the complete unfoldment of the potentialities with which God has endowed it".

There are already very strong signs that what has happened and is happening in Peterborough, is and can be repeated everywhere else. We have just had news of a very successful weekend conference in Oakham, with many people being attracted to the Faith and already five new Bahá'ís! Probably the number will have increased considerably by the time this item goes to press.

It has become very obvious to us over the past few weeks that all our ideas on Bahá'í activities must undergo a radical rethink, and the very first thing one realizes that has to be thrown overboard is too much formality. A much more informal programme must be thought out, with plenty of opportunity for chatting, singing (and eating) and generally enjoying each other's company in true Bahá'í fellowship.

But no doubt every Bahá'í community will have to find out what suits them best; the secret seems to be to try and be flexible and learn by one's mistakes!

When one tries to think back and find out how and why it all began in Peterborough, it is very hard to find an ultimate answer, and probably there isn't one. There have been youth conferences before in different towns — what sparked off the tremendous response in this particular place and at this particular time? Perhaps it was the prayer vigil that the youth undertook, with the Tablet of Ahmad being said round the clock for nearly forty-eight hours. Certainly when one tries to find a single factor that might prove the key, prayer stands out very significantly indeed. For there is little doubt that the whole of the British community has begun to make use of the power of prayer more than they

have ever done before, and many communities have been meeting together to say the 'Remover of difficulties' five hundred times. For the first time Peterborough community met together to say this prayer a month before the Youth School took place. Through what other means than prayer, were all these people so ready and able to accept the Faith almost as soon as they heard about Bahá'u'lláh?

And then again perhaps we should think back over the years to when the Faith was first brought to the British Isles and the many hard and difficult years that have passed and the small and scattered Bahá'í community that has held on to the vision given to it by Bahá'u'lláh in spite of everything. Many have not lived to see the many seeds they scattered bear fruit — but who can doubt that these are the first fruits — and how lucky we are to be able to see them.

Marina Bridle

### To every Bahá'í Youth in the British Isles

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

An exciting year lies ahead of us. The National Spiritual Assembly and the National Teaching Committee are expecting the youth to continue to expand on the potentialities revealed at Peterborough and are giving top priority to the Youth as the spearhead of teaching and proclamation in these islands.

"...The eyes of the entire Bahá'í world are directed towards the activities which the Bahá'í youth are initiating in various countries with the view of hastening the unfoldment of the Divine Plan..."

With this statement applying to us more than ever before, it is vital for each and every one of us to search our hearts and see how we can fully participate in the forthcoming plans.

The National Youth Plan has been specifically launched to promote the Two Year Campaign in Europe by doubling the present number of youth, increasing the number of local youth committees to thirty and by deepening ourselves in the Faith. As an integral part of this teaching campaign projects will also take place in St. Austell, Jersey and Scotland as a prelude to and a continuation of the Fiesch Conference (July 31–August 11). We are confident that the spirit of sacrifice, so often portrayed by the Youth, will bring about the success and full achievement of these plans.

In order to encourage more participation and support from all of us, the National Spiritual Assembly has appointed three Regional Youth Committees in Scotland, Northern Ireland and England and Wales to be responsible to the National Youth Committee for the promotion of youth activities, using the energies and enthusiasm of the Bahá'í Youth in their regions. Furthermore, the National Youth Committee will as from now direct its communication through news sheets every nineteen days, so that more vital news can be exchanged and shared by all of us.

We hope that the following words from the Universal House of Justice will remain in our memories throughout this challenging period of our lives:

"Let those who set their hand to this vital enterprise press confidently forward, undeterred by any obstacles which may stand in their way, joyously assured of the unfailing assistance of the conquering power of Bahá'u'lláh."

With loving Bahá'í Greetings,  
The National Youth Committee

### ADULT HELP NEEDED

#### INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CAMP – ST. AUSTELL

17 July to 28 August

Camp, teach, serve the Cause. Especially for Youth but adult helpers and teachers urgently needed.

#### YOUTH PROCLAMATION SUMMER PROJECT JERSEY

Early July to end August

See the National Teaching Committee report in this 'Journal', book your holidays soon and give details of the dates you will be available to either of the following secretaries:

Shahram Mottahed, National Teaching Committee,  
360 Wilmslow Road, Manchester 14.

Miss Hazel Baller, National Youth Committee,  
c/o 11 Cramphorn Walk, Chelmsford



## NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITIES

**AYLESBURY.** A talk on the Bahá'í Faith was given to about sixty sixth formers at Aylesbury High School, where the chair was taken by the headmistress, herself a teacher of comparative religion. For a meeting at which there was a short talk on the Faith, followed by a slide show and then coffee accompanied by the singing of Bahá'í songs, 500 invitations were rolled up, tied with coloured ribbon and handed out to people in the main street. This meeting was well supported by the Oxford Bahá'ís. The Aylesbury community is very sad to lose Irene Jones, who has pioneered to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands where she will be teaching.

**CHELMSFORD.** Devotionals, talks, dancing and singing were the ingredients for Chelmsford's double celebrations on May 22/23. Blessed doubly again by Hand of the Cause Dr. Ugo Giachery and his wife, Chelmsford celebrated simultaneously the Declaration of the Báb and the forming of their first local assembly. Fresh from her travels in Persia and the Holy Land, Mrs. Shomais Afnan showered us with fragrances from Haifa and Shiraz. Mrs. Marion Hofman gave us a glimpse of an important new book to be printed in the future — Hand of the Cause Hasan Balyuzi's book on the life of 'Abdu'l-Bahá — and spoke challengingly to the Youth — "You alone can teach the Faith to the legions of young people who are eagerly waiting for it." Dr. Giachery spoke to us of the construction of the Shrine of the Báb and also of Shoghi Effendi; his words painted for us a vivid and intimate portrait of the Guardian and amazed us when we realised under what adverse conditions the magnificent edifice of the Shrine of the Báb was raised.

**ECCLES.** The weekend school in May took place at the new annexe of our local library — a place of great beauty and right in the very heart of the town. A number of large glass panes reaching to ground level enabled us to display visual aids such as photographs and posters, which were much observed by passers-by — Saturday's shoppers and Sunday's strollers. It was our very own little exhibition. The school was of the usual high standard with about sixty people attending on Sunday. One of the most encouraging signs of our coming of age is the emergence of some very good and knowledgeable speakers who live within a comparatively short distance, and the wonderful spirit in which this service is rendered. We do thank most warmly all those who supported our school, especially Ernest and Joan Gregory, who are always our very stalwart supporters.

**GLASGOW:** An informal meeting was held at the Turnbull Hall on May 15 when Dr. Giachery spoke to about forty Bahá'ís and two non-Bahá'ís. Tea and coffee were served and followed by a sing-song; Nahid Tahzib sang some beautiful Bahá'í songs which were much appreciated. A social gathering took place the next day, when Dr. Giachery spoke to some non-Bahá'ís.



*Some of the friends who walked around the walls of York — which took over two hours — just before Ridván, saying 'The Remover of Difficulties' and praying for the re-establishment of the Local Spiritual Assembly.*

**HINDLEY.** Following our World Religion Day meeting, the minister of the Unitarian Church asked us to take part in a similar meeting in his church, which was well attended, with Bahá'ís from Manchester, Liverpool, Chester, Shrewsbury, N. Wales, Eccles and Swinton in the congregation. Afterwards there was a general discussion over tea and many people took away pamphlets. In April there were two declarations and following Hand of the Cause, Dr. Giachery's meeting in Burnley, attended by friends from Hindley, yet another declaration. Now there are five adults and two youth in the group.

**INVERNESS:** The bounty of travel teachers and overseas visitors has been amply demonstrated to us during the last few weeks. A talk reported in the Inverness Courier resulted in an Inverness teacher asking to know more about this Faith which had first been expounded to him by a young Indian student who had made a profound impression upon him. Two Ugandan Bahá'ís studying in Edinburgh have enabled us to make contacts among people who had not previously heard of the Faith. A family from Hawaii provided an interesting evening when five contacts were present to see their slides so beautifully integrated with teachings from the Bahá'í Faith. Our monthly public meeting took on a new look when the Young Dawnbreakers from Birmingham added their vocal talent to the meeting of prayer and readings on 'The Light of Unity', when progressive revelation was built up with readings from the scripture of all the world religions.

**KIDDERMINSTER.** A Goal Town Project was held on May 22/23, preceded for two days by Birmingham youth praying in and around the city and proclaiming the event on Saturday night in the streets. On Saturday evening a show similar to that used in Peterborough was put on, followed by the film 'It's just the beginning.' About sixteen non-Bahá'ís were present and there were two declarations that evening! On Sunday morning there was a talk given by Derek Cockshutt on 'Why the World needs Religion' and after lunch we held the celebration of the Declaration of the Báb, which included the showing of a film made by Ted Cardell about the life of the Báb. We had the bounty of the presence of Auxiliary Board Member David Lewis for the weekend.

**PORTSMOUTH.** A public meeting held in March was a great success. It was addressed by Charles Macdonald and fifty people were present, including twelve non-Bahá'ís. During the break for refreshments, we were entertained with Bahá'í songs sung by Fiona Dunn with her guitar, which were much enjoyed.

**SOUTHPORT.** A very successful exhibition week, held in September last year, has given the local Bahá'ís a new teaching impetus and, to date, two new declarations. Teaching is mostly in the form of firesides, held in three homes within the civic limits and two homes in Scarisbrick, which is just outside the boundary. A new series of public meetings is planned and support will be warmly welcomed. Two public meetings held since the exhibition have already attracted a number of new enquirers. The organiser of the Arts Centre, where our meetings are held, has said publicly that the atmosphere brought into the centre by the Bahá'ís at the exhibition was so tremendous that 'the place has never been the same since.'

**STRETTFORD.** On March 23 our group, accompanied by a few of the Eccles friends, presented the Proclamation books to the Mayor and Mayoress of Stretford, who received us at the Town Hall. After the presentation of the books, the mayor spoke with us for about an hour. She asked us many questions about the Faith, its history and its teachings, especially those concerned with education and government. The occasion was followed by an excellent article in the Stretford Journal, written by a journalist who asked many questions and took great care to get his facts right. Shortly afterwards we were invited to send a representative to the annual Clergy Luncheon. Fariborz Varjavandi attended for the group and reported that he was given plenty of opportunity to talk about the Faith. Questions were thoughtful and serious and the attitude of some of the clergy seemed remarkably unprejudiced.

**TORBAY.** On April 23 a meeting was arranged for the chairman of the south-west area of the United Nations Association, Mr. H.P.L. Atlee to address the Torbay Bahá'í Community at the Bahá'í Centre. He spoke of the unifying role of the United Nations and afterwards wrote the following letter to the community: "It was a great privilege and pleasure for me to have met and spoken to the Torbay Bahá'í Community. I am convinced that the United Nations' aims and principles are completely in harmony with the Bahá'í Faith and philosophy, and look forward to much fruitful co-operation. Patrick Atlee."



## THE ONWARD MARCH OF THE FAITH IN BRITAIN

A most warm and loving welcome is extended to all those who have accepted the Faith in recent weeks as well as to those youth who have, with loyalty and dedication, claimed their voting rights on reaching the age of 21.

The pace continues to increase and more and more waiting souls are being attracted to the Cause to receive the blessing of recognising Him Who is God's Manifestation for this day.

### UNITED KINGDOM

#### Youth

Stephen Burroughs – Bath  
Farhang Taheri – Brighton  
Alexander Robin Telfer – Brighton  
Steven James Alker – Kendal  
Peter John Dimmick – Bognor Regis  
Frances Mary Coulson (Miss) – Dyffryn  
Aredwy  
Taraneh Afnan (Miss) – Harlow  
Peter Henry Stratton – Warminster  
Jill Pearce (Miss) – Melksham  
Terry Nicholas Thompson – Southport  
George Dow – Motherwell  
Janet Muir (Miss) – Motherwell  
Timothy Maude – Aberystwyth  
Helen Ratcliffe (Miss) – Wigan  
Gayle Hardy (Miss) – Henley-on-Thames  
James Francis David O'Driscoll – Twickenham  
Judith Barbara Lowery (Miss) – Pangbourne  
Jane McKay (Miss) – Lerwick  
Audrey McKay (Miss) – Lerwick

#### Youth Claiming Voting Rights

Brenda Lipscombe (Miss) – Kensington  
Hahbubeh Hosseyn (Miss) – Shrewsbury  
Taylazay Chedenbrun (Miss) – Epsom

#### Adults

Beatrice Asare (Mrs.) – Aberystwyth  
Ebenezer Okae Asare – Aberystwyth  
Farzand Ali – Aylesbury  
Sandra Ali (Mrs.) – Aylesbury  
Kenneth Emsley – Leeds  
Marjorie King (Miss) – Sevenoaks  
John Brice – Colchester  
Violet Louise Le Scelleur (Miss) – Jersey  
R.K. McMillan – Hereford  
Fay Maureen Glossop (Mrs.) – St. Austell  
Sophia Chai-Yun Wu (Miss) – London  
Janice Cornelia Dizon (Miss) – London  
Brenda Marie Dainton (Mrs.) – Carlisle  
Eleanor Phill Ratcliffe (Mrs.) – Derby  
Stephen Edward Campion – Epsom  
Alexander Rowlands – Kirkby  
Ronald Williams – Kirkby  
Norma May McHugh (Mrs.) – Kirby  
Judith Anne Lewis (Miss) – Swansea  
Victoria Mawhinney (Mrs.) – Belfast  
H.S. Reid (Mrs.) – Belfast  
Barbara Chisholme Clarke (Mrs.) – Kensington

Amy Black (Miss) – London  
Susi Johnson (Miss) – Watford  
Jon David Danzig – Watford  
Thomas Graham Wright – Newcastle  
Soussan Mohtadi Talbot (Miss) – Reading  
Sally Patricia Mills (Miss) – Bristol  
Valerie Joy Cornish (Miss) – Bristol  
Susan Elizabeth Smith (Miss) – Heywood  
Lindsay Claire Miller (Miss) – E. Grinstead  
Peter John Taylor – Tylehurst  
Farhang Tahzib – Aberdeen  
Pamela Anne Link (Miss) – Chelmsford  
Graham William MacLachlen – Stornoway  
Vernon Arrindale Clarke – Ealing  
Ian Austin – Peterborough  
Peter Malton – Peterborough  
Connie Catherine Christine Khisa (Miss) – Peterborough  
Deborah Elaine Hopper (Miss) – Peterborough  
John Khisa – Peterborough

Frances Bown (Mrs.) – Newport  
Shahbaz Farhabgi-Sabet – Manchester  
Ronald Taherzadeh – Dundee

Thomas Norton Eyton – Hereford  
Hugh Rodden – Shrewsbury  
J. Peart – Shrewsbury  
Oswald Greenwood – York  
James Spence – Rutherglen  
Michael Stanford – Guildford  
E.W. Watt – Reading  
Alistair Wilson – Londonderry  
Wilfred Robinson – Lincoln  
Ashley Robinson (Miss) – Kensington  
Wendy Ann Irwin (Miss) – Kensington  
Anne Maire MacLeod (Miss) – Kensington  
John Winter – Londonderry  
Muzaffar Hussain Sayed – Birmingham  
Laurence Sutherland – Kirkwall  
Geoffrey Ault – Blakedown  
D. Halvin – Kidderminster  
Margaret Frances D. Wood (Mrs.) – Penzance  
Geoffrey Charles Hickley – Great Bentley  
Wendy Elizabeth Reader (Mrs.) – Winchester  
Denis Keith Reader – Winchester  
Soudabe Wilding (Mrs.) – Leamington Spa

Peter Bilsen – Peterborough  
Hugh Robert Scott – Peterborough  
Leslie Alan Woodbridge – Peterborough  
Howard Fredrick Mills – Peterborough  
Robert C.G. Kingthorn – Peterborough  
Deobrah Anne Hayes (Miss) – Peterborough  
Howard Graham Lynn – Peterborough  
Robert Hugh Morton – Peterborough  
Shelagh Crane (Miss) – Peterborough  
Donald McKenzie Anderson – Peterborough  
Andrew James Human – Norwich  
Christine Mary Oxley (Miss) – Solihull  
Richard James White – Langham  
David Michael Smith – Hawthorne  
Laura Cullimore (Miss) – Uxbridge  
Trevor Pretty – Hereford  
Denise Catherine Bowman (Miss) – Stamford  
Andrew Keith Slingo – Oakham  
Peter Bird – Oakham  
Anthony Howard Boyfield – Oakham

Mahsoud Tahzib – Dundee  
Mehran Adlparvour – Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Joy Sell (Mrs.) – Lincoln  
Monty Harris – Lincoln  
John Dakin – Bath  
W.C. Owens – Bath  
Lena Owens (Mrs.) – Bath  
Kenneth Cooper – Wigan  
Edna Cooper (Mrs.) – Wigan  
Denis Keith – Dundee  
Raymond Bevan – Cardiff  
Diane Grace (Mrs.) – Manchester  
Pauline Metcalfe (Miss) – Bedford  
Edward Laurence Warren – Bedford  
Michael James Weddell – Motherwell  
Mavis Ann Streets (Miss) – Blackpool  
William Widdowson – Southampton  
Mavis Widdowson (Mrs.) – Southampton  
Sarah Eugene Calrke (Mrs.) – Larne R.D.  
Clive Francis Bertram Edwards – Barnet  
Allan James McEwan – Glasgow  
Grace Eveline Rush (Miss) – Cambridge  
Brian Edwards – Eccles

### REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Eleanor Fisher (Miss) – Bray, Co. Wicklow

Gerard McCullough (Youth) – Limerick

### GARDEN PICNICS

The Cardell family extend a loving invitation to you, your family and friends this summer to attend the annual garden picnics. The dates to remember are the first Sunday in July, August and September:—

July 4,      August 1,      September 7

The address is: Manor Farm, Great Paxton, St. Neots, Huntingdonshire; telephone: St. Neots 2038.

Bring your own food: tea, coffee or squash provided.

To get there from the A1, turn off at St. Neots/Cambridge Road, turn left at the second lights on the Huntingdon Road. When in Great Paxton we are opposite the church.

Bring your musical instruments and we will have a most glorious day!

### CHILD EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Would all parents who wish to register their children please send their names, birthdays and addresses to Mrs. Alicia Cardell, Manor Farm, Great Paxton, St. Neots, Huntingdonshire, as the Child Education Committee wish to compile a new register. Please send these details even though you may have notified the committee previously. Each child who sends his name and address will be sent a coloured postcard by the committee.