



# BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

*K. Hornell*  
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OCTOBER 1970

## ONE HUNDRED AND ONE NATIONAL ASSEMBLIES BY RIDVAN 1971

To Hands of the Cause Rúhíyyih Khánum and William Sears, representing the Universal House of Justice at the Continental Conference for South America in Bolivia and the Indian Ocean Conference in Mauritius respectively, the following cable was sent

Please announce to participants Conference joyous news decision call three additional National Conventions next Ridvan, namely Sudan, Chad and Congo Brazzaville, Gabon, bringing to seven new National Spiritual Assemblies being formed at close of seventh Nine Year Plan. Fer- vently praying Holy Shrines behalf national communities Bahá'í World reaching one hundred and one by next Ridvan supplicating reinforcement ties uniting them greater consecration challenging tasks still ahead, wider participation all ranks faithful. Communicating text (this) cable (to) all National Spiritual Assemblies.

*The Universal House of Justice*

## A SIGN OF DIVINE CONFIRMATION

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

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

Your circular letter of June 4th to all the believers in the British Isles about the new developments which you contemplate in administration of the Faith is a highly interesting and uplifting document and a clear proof of the advance of the British Bahá'í Community towards the glorious destiny which the beloved Guardian promised them they could attain. Whatever modifications you may find necessary as the new plan develops the friends throughout the British Isles should regard it with joy, fully worthy of their support and indeed a sign of Divine confirmation on all their strenuous and devoted labours.

We were happy to note your point 5, that the National Committee structure will not be changed, and feel it is vital that National Committees should always have direct access to the National Spiritual Assembly, to whom they are directly responsible, and that these Committees should do their own work and have their own officers, no matter what developments take place at the National Office.

We have also noted your very sound plan to train a Manager for your Publishing Trust and we wish you every success in this important undertaking.

The British Bahá'í Community is often in our thoughts and we assure you of our ardent prayers in the Holy Shrine for bountiful rewards upon all your labours and a rapid expansion and consolidation of the Faith throughout the British Isles.

With loving Bahá'í greetings.

*The Universal House of Justice*

## IRISH SUMMER SCHOOL

"Delighted heartening message Irish Summer School. Assure all friends ardent prayers Holy Shrines complete success important Goals Ireland".

(Cable)

*Universal House of Justice*

## BAHÁ'Í NEWS INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

### SPECIAL ISSUE

We share with you the following cables received from the historic Continental and Oceanic Conferences held simultaneously in La Paz, Bolivia and Rose Hill, Mauritius August 14 through 17.

Hand of the Cause of God 'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánum represented the Universal House of Justice in La Paz and Hand of the Cause of God Mr. William Sears represented the Universal House of Justice in Mauritius.

"Six hundred fifty Bahá'ís gathered presence beloved representative Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánum six counsellors twelve board members thirty-nine members National Assemblies fifteen tribes races nineteen countries celebrating incessant victories mass teaching with increase over thirty thousand believers since last August including twenty-four thousand since last Ridvan. Conference pledged reconsecrate efforts win all remaining goals plan. Further determined win unprecedented increase expansion consolidation waiting masses South America. Conference honored visit Minister Education..."

(Cable from Continental Conference in Bolivia — dated August 15, 1970)

"Further announce call 'Amatu'l-Bahá answered by thirty-one pioneer and hundred thirteen travelling teacher offers" (Cable from Continental Conference in Bolivia — dated August 16, 1970)

"Unique Conference recalling London Congress (was) crowned (by) over 200 attendants all backgrounds received Presidential Palace (by) President Bolivia. Your book officially presented graciously received speech appreciation Faith principles televised..."

(Cable from Hand of the Cause Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánum — dated August 17, 1970)

"Over 800 Friends assembled Conference express loving gratitude presence Hands Cause Sears Khazeh Muhajir uplifting hearts surpass goals Nine Year Plan..."

(Cable from Indian Ocean Conference - dated August 15 1970).

"Conference successfully concluded over 800 attending 32 countries three Hands nine Counsellors ten Board Members 22 National Spiritual Assembly representatives 17 Assemblies. Outstanding press television also contact Government officials Prime Minister Governor-General United Nations Peace Corps Ministers Mayors Industry. Huge audience public meeting. Final day 212 pioneers volunteered three hundred thousand rupees four jeeps contributed pledged. All attendants consecrated selves successful completion all goals plan."

(Cable from Hand of the Cause Mr. William Sears — dated August 18, 1970)

## NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

A special Youth Conference has been called to meet Hand of the Cause, John Roberts who has a particular message for the British Youth.

Dr. Johnson House, Colmore Circus, Birmingham.  
10.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Saturday, 17 October.

Another meeting for all the local Bahá'ís will be held on the following day in the same place.



## IMPORTANCE OF THE ISLANDS

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

August 25, 1970

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

We have received your semi-annual statistical report and, as we informed you in our cable at Ridvan, were delighted to note the many evidences of the increased pace of the teaching and consolidation work in the territories under your jurisdiction.

We are happy to learn that Bahá'í groups are now established in Shetland Islands, Outer Hebrides, Isle of Wight and Channel Islands. We feel it is important for you to pursue the teaching work in those localities diligently, for it would indeed be sad if through failure to establish one local Spiritual Assembly in any of them, your splendid record of victories should be marred.

We shall pray that Bahá'u'lláh will assist you and enable you to fulfill every pledge to which you have committed yourselves.

With loving Bahá'í greetings.

*The Universal House of Justice*

## NO SPECIAL STATUS FOR PIONEERS OR TRAVELLING TEACHERS

To: All National Spiritual Assemblies

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

From time to time we receive reports that pioneers or travelling teachers who are subsidized by the International Deputization Fund or receive letters of encouragement from the Universal House of Justice are assumed to have some special status or authority.

In order that there be no misunderstanding, it should be made clear that such individuals have no special status and have no authority or standing other than that of any believer residing in the area where he is pioneering or teaching.

Furthermore, pioneers and travelling teachers are under the jurisdiction of the National Spiritual Assembly of the country or area in which they are travelling or residing, as the case may be, and they must be obedient to the instruction of these National Spiritual Assemblies.

Of course, there may be cases when the Universal House of Justice may call upon a believer to accomplish a special mission on its behalf. In such cases special letters are written to the National Spiritual Assemblies concerned.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

*The Universal House of Justice*

## TEACHING CONFERENCE

Book now — special reductions, Midland Hotel, New Street, Birmingham 2. 37/6 plus service (mention Bahá'í Conference) 2/3 January, 1971.

## HOW WELL DO YOU READ YOUR 'JOURNAL'?

### Question 1

After reading what page of the last 'Journal' did you take up your pencil?

### Question 2

What is the 'principal task' of an Auxiliary Board Member?

### Question 3

What can slow down the advance of the Army of the Cause?

### Question 4

What adjective was wrongly spelled in the last 'Journal'?

### Question 5

When is World Religion Day?

### Question 6

Who are the 'three luminaries shedding brilliant lustre annals Irish, English, Scottish Bahá'í Communities'?



Hand of the Cause, John Roberts.

Now touring the British Isles at the request of the Universal House of Justice.

## EDITORIAL

The Editorial Committee would like to thank everyone who has written to comment upon the last issue of the 'Journal' — many valuable suggestions have been found among your letters. Any Bahá'í who has any suggestion to make about the 'Journal' is asked to write, as new ways of making it more readable and interesting are always being sought.

It will have been noticed that a different type face and an eight-point print have been used. A few friends have mentioned that they find the print small, and the committee would like to share with you the alternatives. The 'Journal' is allocated £1,000 for the year, which has also to cover the Annual Report and £18 per issue for mailing costs. In order to get as much material into each issue of the 'Journal', and at the same time to retain its readability, it was decided to use a smaller print. A larger size print would mean a definite diminution in the amount of material per page.

If you have any interesting community activities — a display, a function with dignitaries or well-known people or any occasion of special interest — and can take a photograph of the activity, please send a copy of the photograph, which should be half-plate, glossy and well-contrasted. We cannot promise to print, but we are hoping to use more photographs in future.

The deadline date for material for the next issue of the 'Journal' is

**16th NOVEMBER 1970**

Note: material sent after that date will be held until the next issue, so if your contribution is likely to be out of date, please amend it accordingly.

Material should be sent to the Editor:

**Mrs. Lois Hainsworth,**

**'Treen'**

**Allerton Park, Leeds LS7 4ND.**

## OCEANIC AND CONTINENTAL CONFERENCES

### South China Seas

Now to be held in Singapore, not Djakarta. January 1, 2, 3, 1971.

### Iceland

Costs now reduced. Between £58 and £93 depending upon number of days and hotel booking. Register now with £1 deposit. Pat Green, 1534 Stratford Road, Birmingham 28.



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS.....

THE FANTASTIC JOURNEYS OF  
'AMATU'L-BAHÁ RÚHÍYYIH KHÁNUM

From the 4th August, 1969 until today, reports have been flowing in to the Holy Land of the exciting events associated with the travels of Hand of the Cause, Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánum. Thousands of words have been written and we can only summarise the high-lights of these fantastic and history-making journeys. They are extracted mainly from the reports by Violette Nakhjavani as published in the 'Baha'i News'.

"On August 5, the wheels of our plane touched down at Entebbe Airport, Uganda — at long last the long-promised visit of 'Amatu'l-Bahá to the believers of Africa was commencing..."

"During her ten-day stay in Kampala she was able to attend a reception given in her honour...; to deliver a public lecture in the hall of the National Theatre and to be interviewed for a full half hour on Radió Uganda..."

"Rúhíyyih Khánum's happiest moment came when she was able to attend a service in the Mother Temple of Africa, sitting between Hands of the Cause Musa Banani and Enoch Olinga..."

She had purchased a large Land Rover, three and a half tons when loaded, which she picked up on arrival in Nairobi, Kenya; her plan was to reach the Bahá'ís in the villages who so seldom have any opportunity to meet their brothers and sisters from other places, how much less other nations and continents. Her programme was a full one. Interviewed on Kenya T.V. on August 17th she spoke for seven minutes and later was invited to the home of Vice-President Moi and his wife. From August 28 to September 2, Rúhíyyih Khánum visited Bahá'í communities along the Kenya Coast and then went along to tour Tanzania. One impressive character she met was an anti-witch doctor. (This is a man licensed by the Government of Kenya to break the spells of the witch-doctors.) Before becoming a Bahá'í he was a pagan and some of his sons and a few of his seventy wives have also accepted the Faith. On September 4th she landed in Dar-es-Salaam and addressed meetings, held Press interviews, attended a reception held in her honour, met prominent people, members of the diplomatic corps and Government officials and had a ten-minute interview on the Government radio, all during her whirlwind seven-day visit there. For the remainder of the month she toured Tanzania, visiting the believers in their villages, holding meetings in the open or under large trees and then until mid-October, toured another part of the Kenya Highlands.

On October 15th, Rúhíyyih Khánum went by air to Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia. Here the stay of one month was packed with activity and great victories were won for the Faith. She was interviewed by a reporter, and then gave a full half-hour of information on the Faith to a radio director who broadcast it in full — the first time mention of the Cause had been made on the radio. This was a source of great encouragement to the friends who are just beginning to emerge from obscurity in Ethiopia.

## The Emperor grants an interview

Probably the most important event of the whole tour took place on the morning after her arrival when she had an interview with His Imperial Majesty, Haile Selassie I, which lasted for a full half-hour.

"We then bowed low, the Emperor again shook hands, and we backed respectfully towards the door. Just as we reached it, His Imperial Majesty said something to his Secretary, who approached Rúhíyyih Khánum and asked her to wait a moment. As we stood, he opened a cabinet against a wall, took out a box and handed it to the Emperor, who asked Rúhíyyih Khánum to approach. Opening the small case, he showed her the gold medal of his Coronation, saying this was a token of his esteem and not because of any intrinsic value it might have. Rúhíyyih Khánum accepted it gracefully, thanked him, and we departed. Thus ended what must truly be considered an historic interview in every way..."

When Rúhíyyih Khánum went to a Bahá'í Conference in Gemeto, the Chief Secretary of the District insisted that she be accompanied to the Conference by the Chief of Police as well as by the Governor of the area. She then said,

"One hundred years ago Bahá'u'lláh, the Founder of our Faith, who was a distinguished nobleman, was taken on foot, bareheaded and barefooted, in chains under the burning sun, from His palace in the mountains to the worst dungeon in Tihran; now, for His sake and in His honour, I accept the honour you are bestowing on me..."

(Editorial Note: In future issues of the 'Journal' we hope to give our readers more stories from these journeys and extracts from the wonderful talks given by our revered Hand of the Cause. It was felt, however, that as these events took place just a year ago, some more recent inspiring developments in the U.S.A. would be welcomed now.)

## RÚHÍYYIH KHÁNUM IN THE AMERICAS

'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánum cut short her African tour to represent the Universal House of Justice at the National Convention of Ecuador and at the first National Convention of Guyana, Surinam and French Guiana. On her way she stopped in Panama where she consulted with the National Spiritual Assembly, visited the House of Worship being constructed and met with the friends. After the Conventions she visited Trinidad, and island communities in the Leeward, Windward and Virgin Islands. "The whole experience of visiting the friends from Grenada to St. Thomas," she said, "constitutes one of the happiest memories of my many long travels to see the Bahá'ís in different parts of the world. Their love, their co-operation, their hospitality made the whole trip outstanding in every way..."

From June 19-21, Rúhíyyih Khánum spoke to over two thousand Bahá'í Youth at the largest gathering of Bahá'í Youth ever held in the Northern Hemisphere. Youth from every state in the United States including twelve from Hawaii and from some twenty foreign nations were present. Reporting to the Universal House of Justice Rúhíyyih Khánum wrote "...the experience here has been truly a wonderful one...In all I was able to address the young people during three sessions for over five hours. I was astonished at their power of concentration! They listened with rapt attention and at the end of a two hour session seemed to be just as absorbed as at the beginning. To me this is one of the highest compliments one could pay them because one very seldom finds either this thirst for knowledge or power of concentration outside the villages in the 'under developed' countries..."

The news of the Conference was cabled to the World Centre:

"Surging Ocean Bahá'í Youth 2,000 strong convened precincts Mother Temple West. Majority recent recruits Army of Light incredibly enriched presence Hands Cause God 'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánum John Roberts Dhikru'lláh Khadem Continental Counsellors Auxiliary Board Members entire body National Spiritual Assembly. Inspired contemplation sacrifice Purest Branch century ago praying fervently assistance rise heights sacrifice acceptable Holy Threshold. 200 plus pioneers arose determined spread flame mass awakening abroad home exploit precious moment critical house giving lives to Bahá'u'lláh"

The National Spiritual Assembly cabled:

"Annals Cause America especially illumined extraordinary success second National Youth Conference indelibly etched memories 2 thousand attendance uniquely blessed radiant galvanic participation 'Amatu'l-Bahá. Salutory effects Chicago area loving unifying uplifting behaviour participants already obvious as attested significant number new enrollments enthusiastic expression admiration onlooking public. Supplementary goals five year program whole heartedly adopted include deploying 25 foreign pioneers opening 100 localities in States smallest Bahá'í population increasing number college clubs to 200 undertaking individual study epistle son wolf this year..."

Following this tremendous Conference over 500 believers gathered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to hear 'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánum speak, and from there she went to the new 'mass-conversion' Area of the deep south (reported in the last 'Journal'). From the Southeastern Bahá'í Summer School a thrilling cable was sent to the Universal House of Justice. This contained the news that the last 24 hours of the school were used in mass teaching, resulting in 64 new believers in Perry, Georgia; 53 in Fort Valley, 81 in Marshallville and 230 in all. Twelve new centres were opened, six pioneers arose and \$1400 contributed to the Fund.



## GUYANA — TEACHING CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION 1970



*Rúhíyyih Khanum speaks to Betty Reed and Counsellor Hooper  
Dunbar presents a picture to Ivan Fraser for the new National  
Spiritual Assembly.*

To raise a pillar many months, nay, years of work must be done on the foundation. With the help of Bahá'u'lláh, the guidance of the mother national assemblies and the work of the local assemblies throughout Guyana, Surinam and French Guiana, a firm foundation was laid.

As the Convention was to take place in Guyana, the privilege of making the physical arrangements for this event was given to the Local Assembly of Georgetown, which worked for months until all was ready, 'all systems go'.

Visitors and friends arrived in waves and pulses as they landed at the airport and seaports. Our beloved 'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khanum representing the Universal House of Justice; Mrs. Violette Nakhjavani, her priceless companion; Counsellors Mr. Hooper Dunbar and Mr. Donald Witzel (both of South America) and Counsellor Mrs. Betty Reed, who represented the British National Assembly, together with Auxiliary Board Members, Knights of Bahá'u'lláh, delegates, pioneers and residents all took part in a two-day teaching conference, followed by a two-day Convention from 30 April to 3 May.

Soon after her arrival, 'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khanum, accompanied by a number of friends, was received by the President of the Republic of Guyana and spent about half an hour with him.

Counsellor Betty Reed opened the first day of the teaching conference and there followed reports from the three countries and a short history of the Faith and its explosive growth here. 'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khanum spoke on the Institution of the Guardianship and told us something of the intense way in which our beloved Guardian worked. Some of us had the great privilege of meeting her and of being showered by her abundant love. In the evening we followed her trail on the 'Rabbani African Safari' when she and Mrs. Nakhjavani showed slides and told stories of their journey.

On the second day 'Amatu'l-Bahá was interviewed by the local radio station. The gathered friends listened to this conversation and were inspired by Rúhíyyih Khanum's answers to the interviewer. Under Mrs. Reed's chairmanship we read the guidance given by the Guardian on the qualities needed by elected members of the national assemblies and the relationships of the Bahá'í Institutions to each other and to individuals and non-Bahá'í bodies.

In the evening came the celebration of the Twelfth Day of Ridván, at which we were the guests of the British National Assembly — the room was packed with the multi-coloured flowers of Bahá'u'lláh and radiance shone from the faces of the friends. Tears of joy came to our eyes and our hearts overflowed with a feeling that neither pen could describe nor tongue recount, and the thought in our minds that just over a century ago the Light of God shone in the Splendour of Bahá, whose Rays now reached every corner of the globe.

Convention was opened by Mrs. Reed, followed by roll-call and election of officers. 'Amatu'l-Bahá, as representative of the Universal House of Justice, expressed her gratitude to them and read their messages — one to the world and the other to Convention. There was great joy when the Convention Message was read — already some of the goals had been achieved and others being negotiated.

Then came the time for the election — there was a tremendous devotional programme and the spiritual vibrations of each prayer could be felt. By this time, all but one delegate had arrived, and it was decided to vote, but to hold the ballots until the very last moment — no sooner had the last ballot been cast than in walked the missing delegate, who had been delayed through transport difficulties. Excitement and tension mounted fast as the chief teller handed the result of the voting to the chairman — as each name was called the owner froze in his seat, dumbfounded and bewildered — and as the last name was called arms were extended and tears flowed as the friends embraced the newly elected members and wished them success in the service of the Beloved. The spirit that existed can never be put into words.

In the evening there were gifts for this newly-born child — from the Universal House of Justice, the Counsellors, the Auxiliary Board, National Assemblies, Local Assemblies, committees and individuals. Among these there was one outstanding gift from the British National Assembly — the Ring of 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

During the last day the Message of the Universal House of Justice was discussed in detail; plans made for the achievement of the remaining goals in the three countries, with special emphasis on French Guiana, where literature and manpower is limited, and resolutions made. Problems of East Indian teaching were discussed and 'Amatu'l-Bahá shared her invaluable experiences with the friends — "They are very receptive, make strong teachers; serve excellently on administrative bodies and are very good at explaining religious truth" she said. As the friends left the hall for a break the national assembly members met to elect officers and the cable committee set to work to write messages. In the afternoon the names of the officers were announced and were warmly applauded, and the cables approved by the delegates.

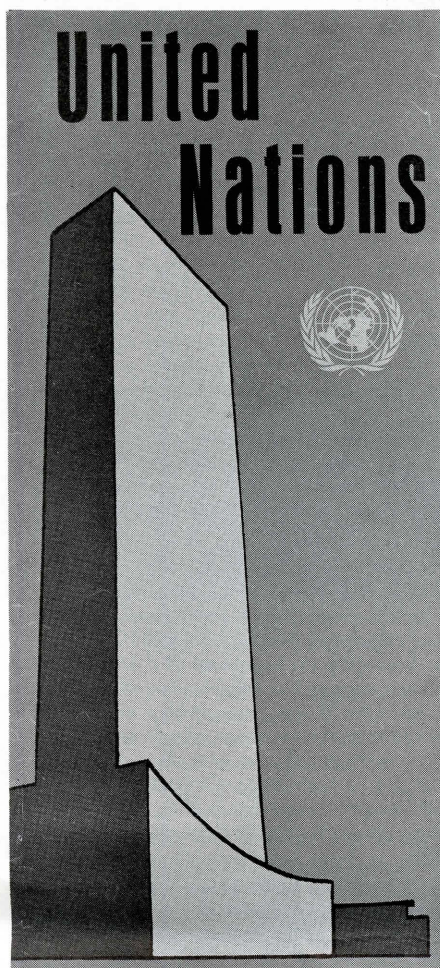
In the evening 'Amatu'l-Bahá gave a public lecture in the Georgetown City Hall.

These four days are now part of our history; the friends bade farewell with tears in their eyes and hearts burning with the love of Bahá'u'lláh and will remember for ever this period of unparalleled peace and beauty.

Report by Jamshid Arjomandi



**BAHÁ'Í INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY**  
 866 United Nations Plaza, New York 10017 U.S.A.



The following extracts were taken from a recent letter from the Bahá'í International Community addressed to all National Spiritual Assemblies.

"This year the United Nations celebrates its 25th anniversary. This world organisation, which the Bahá'ís see as a step in the direction of the Lesser Peace foretold by Bahá'u'lláh, has been often more successful in its economic and social work — education, human rights, health, food and agriculture — than in its political activities of maintaining peace and achieving universal disarmament. (Even here, however, the UN continues to make steady progress.) It is not surprising that the economic and social activities — which constitute 85% of the efforts of the UN — should be the most successful, since the United Nations is an association of independent states, nations very conscious of their sovereignty and often not too willing to consider the welfare of mankind side by side with the well-being of their own peoples.

We well know that the transition from nationalism to internationalism will be a slow one and that the promise that Bahá'u'lláh has given us of an eventual world federation will not occur overnight.....

More and more one hears at UN Headquarters mention of the "interdependence of all peoples", of the needs for "global strategy", of a "partnership of the rich and the poor" — the developed and the developing countries.....We also frequently hear Secretary-General U Thant refer to the indivisibility of mankind, to the organic oneness of humanity.....

In celebrating the 25th anniversary of the United Nations, there is much that Bahá'í communities throughout the world can do. First of all, since the Universal House of Justice has established as one of the goals of the Nine Year Plan the strengthening of our ties with the United Nations, Bahá'ís can gain a basic understanding of the United Nations — what it is, how it works, what it does. Also, since now the Bahá'í International Community has been granted consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and will be working closely with that important body of the UN and its subsidiary organs such as the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission on the Status of Women, and the Commission for Social Development, as well as with the important United Nations Development Programme, it would be valuable for Bahá'ís to be familiar with the contributions that the UN is making in in economic and social fields, not only throughout the world, but specifically in the countries in which they live.

If Bahá'ís can view the United Nations as an expression of the power of unity released into the world by the Bab and Bahá'u'lláh when those Manifestations came to mankind, they will see the UN in a different light. They can instead view it as evidence of the gradual awakening of man's consciousness to the essential need for the unity of mankind, world peace, universal justice and a good economic and social life for all people.

If Bahá'ís can see in the UN the first steps towards the development of full human potentialities, and if they see this new awareness of man as the result of the spirit of Bahá'u'lláh, they can then support the work of the UN as a significant contribution towards the Lesser Peace — a political peace which will be brought about through the agreement of nations and governments.

If, as Bahá'ís, we are familiar with the work of the United Nations and understand the relationship of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh to the UN, we can support willingly and without misgivings the constructive UN work that is in harmony with the Bahá'í Teachings. In educating the public on the UN, it is often better to emphasize the economic and social work of that world organisation — "peace-building" — since this area of activity increases year by year and presents the UN — to the uninformed and the sceptical — in a positive light. Furthermore, "peace-building" is essential to "peace-keeping", and may prove in the end to be its key.....

There are several ways in which you might wish to observe United Nations Day, October 24, and Human Rights Day, December 10. Public meetings, a tea, luncheon, a dinner, a banquet, or any other social function in observance of United Nations or Human Rights Days.

The only principle to consider here is that our support of the UN should not place us in a position to contravene or compromise the Teachings... As always, we are most happy to co-operate with you in your Bahá'í-UN Activities, and we wish you full success in this work so essential for establishing ever closer ties between the Bahá'í world and the United Nations.

Loving Bahá'í greetings.

*Victor de Aravjo*

#### AFRICAN CONFERENCE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Representatives from seven National Spiritual Assemblies in Africa and from the Bahá'í International Community in New York were the largest delegation to the first African Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, February 17-21. Of the 104 Non-Governmental organization delegates and observers attending — representing 74 organizations from 20 countries in Africa — ten were Bahá'ís; and two Bahá'í representatives were the only participants from Mauritius and Swaziland.....

More than once the Bahá'ís were praised for their efforts and dependability by the NGO liaison representative of the Ethiopian government and by other UN personnel.

#### AUSTRALIA

Six public meetings were held; there were two Human Rights Day luncheons and seven Human Rights Day displays.

The meetings, using both United Nations and Bahá'í speakers, drew an overall attendance of 500 people. Some 700 United Nations pamphlets were distributed.

#### BRAZIL

Bahá'ís celebrated United Nations Day from North to South in Brazil. A Bahá'í newspaper representative..was quite successful in obtaining coverage for UN Day. Some communities also had public meetings and had publicity on TV and radio.

#### CAMEROON REPUBLIC

Two hundred people attended a United Nations Day program in Victoria sponsored by the Bahá'ís, the Red Cross and the City of Victoria. The theme, "Youth in the World Today", was used. Guest speakers were the First Assistant Secretary



in charge of UN Liaison at the Prime Minister's office, Buea; the Director of Red Cross of Victoria Chapter and Mrs. Laquetta Karch, member of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Cameroon Republic. The meeting was publicized both in the press and over the radio.

## DENMARK

The Bahá'í community of Denmark has established close relations with the United Nations Information Centre in Copenhagen...Instead of celebrating Human Rights Day on December 10, the Bahá'í communities of Denmark sponsored a photography exhibition for one week in June.

## ETHIOPIA

In Addis Ababa the attendance of the United Nations Day celebration, sponsored by the local Bahá'í community, was three times that of a year ago. Some 300 people attended the public talk given at the auditorium of the Chamber of Commerce. The speaker was Dr. S. Cooppan, a Bahá'í who works for the Economic Commission for Africa as an expert in Man-power Development and Training.

## FALKLAND ISLANDS

The Bahá'ís of the Falkland Islands planned and executed a most attractive display to celebrate UN Day in 1969. The exhibit was arranged in the Secretariat Building and was up for two weeks. The Bahá'í efforts were the first approach to a UN Day observance in fifteen years.

## INDIA

Twenty-four Bahá'í communities in India celebrated United Nations Day in 1969...Bahá'í speakers were featured at meetings which drew an attendance of over 3,000 people.

## SWAZILAND

Almost 300 people attended a United Nations Day celebration in Swaziland. Sponsored by the Bahá'í community, it was held in the assembly hall of the Agricultural College. A representative of the U.N. Development Programme outlined the aims and purposes of the United Nations...The private secretary to the Prime Minister spoke on 'Why Swaziland joined the United Nations'. The last speaker, Mr. Ben Dlamini, a Bahá'í, presented the benefits of forming a United Nations Association, a suggestion which was received enthusiastically. A steering committee was appointed. It consisted of three Bahá'ís, the Editor of the Swaziland Times, the professional photographer for the Department of Public Information, and the private secretary to the Prime Minister.

United Nations activities were also reported from Italy, Kenya, Liberia, Malaysia, N. Zealand, Pakistan, Paraguay, Taiwan and Uganda.

The receptivity of the Chadians is amazing. There are no mass meetings, no publicity — rarely groups of more than a dozen or fifteen at a time. Most of them declare at their first fireside, in which it is normally explained how Bahá'u'lláh is the Promised One and that his purpose is unity. This they understand because they need it. Firesides are every day between 8 and 10 a.m. Nearly all the declarants are young, Muslim and Christian alike. Travel is by foot, hired bicycle or for more distant villages a hired seat in a lorry. The work is wonderful and exhausting. Able teachers and funds are minimal in so fruitful a field. I spent most of my time visiting different districts of the town by bicycle accompanied by a wonderful Congolese Bahá'í; Monsieur Valentin. Despite my pills, I spent my last week with a fever. I was becoming to feel acclimatised.

I then flew down through Cameroon and over to Lagos where I spent two nights and had a brief consultation with the National Teaching Committee there before arriving at Porto Novo in Dahomey where I spent one hectic week with the dear Pioneers from Haiti visiting nine different communities, mostly already possessing their own L.S.A. At that time there were some 600 Bahá'ís, the majority in the villages. They are wonderful and their meetings are so joyful. Dahomey is tom-tom land and they will dance and play their drums for hours and are so endearing and responsive. Again the possibilities seem to be only limited by lack of teachers and funds. We had nearly 100 declarations in that week.

Reluctantly I left them to fly to Niamey, capital of Niger on the river of that name. This is virtually an all Muslim country. The two Persian pioneer families (Sadiqzaheh and Djoneidi) gave me a wonderful welcome. There were about 50 Bahá'ís in Niamey, but most were from Dahomey or Togo and of Christian background. After consultation we agreed to experiment with teaching in the all-Muslim villages near Niamey, where little or no French is spoken. This we did and established beyond doubt their genuine receptivity. Niger's first two villages were opened, all with young new believers. At one we even spoke to over 100 men at their mosque. We also had deepening sessions in Niamey with storytelling and music. They were truly happy days which proved the great potential in Niger.

There were only three days left to me in Bamako, capital of Mali, still on the River Niger, South of Timbuctoo. Mali is virtually virgin territory, like Niger, all Muslim. It had two local believers and a single, retired Belgian lady pioneer, quite new to the Faith herself.

I touched down at Ouagadougou in Upper Volta and who should get on but Shidan and Susan Kouchekzadeh on holiday from their pioneer post in Sierra Leone. We could not believe our eyes! — and they were going to Bamako, so we travelled together and stayed in the same hotel. The main feature of this visit was a public meeting at which the claims of Bahá'u'lláh were very clearly stated and related to Islam and were well-received by an audience of about fifty. There were two further declarations, both by young men who already knew of the Faith.

Reluctantly I boarded my plane to leave French-speaking Africa, so full of promise; if only they can have more pioneers and teachers, literature and funds.

The work in these territories is endless, exhausting, full of difficulties and often sickness, but very rewarding.

I visited the Guardian's grave upon my return to ask God's blessing on the fruits of my trip and on those heroic and steadfast pioneers and the receptive and dear souls in these countries.

P.S. In a letter since received from Niger, following the visits of Hands of the Cause Enoch Olinga and Dr. Mohajer, their goals for this Ridvan are to have one village completely Bahá'í; one 50% Bahá'í; to open nine new villages each with two declarations, a total of 200 declarations and to send two travelling teachers to the interior of the country (there were no travelling teachers when I was there). On top of that they have to develop the Fund, acquire a Bahá'í Centre in Niamey and start to attempt to get the Faith officially recognised.

## TRAVEL TEACHING IN AFRICA

by Jeremy Fox

My attempts at pioneering to Africa having landed me in the Hebrides I could hardly believe the wonderful request that I make a trip to some of the French-speaking territories of Africa in my summer holiday. I was to make a teaching/deepening trip to Chad, Dahomey, Niger and Mali.

After a visit to the Guardian's grave in London I flew to Paris and then on over the Sahara to Fort Lamy, Chad, where I was to stay with the Morgans, a wonderful American couple who have been pioneering since 1958 in Vietnam, Cambodia, Uganda and now, since two years ago, in Chad — one of the hottest, most cut-off and least 'developed' of the African countries.

Dempsey Morgan spoke no French on his arrival and speaks little now. Adrienne speaks rather more. They have put up with great hardship since their arrival there. There was not a single Bahá'í there when they arrived. When I got there there were over 2,000 of whom more than 1,000 are in the city itself, the remainder being in neighbouring villages. There is a high degree of unemployment and poverty, and there are no addresses which makes communication most tricky.

### HAZIRATU'L-QUDS

This name for the Local or National Bahá'í Headquarters literally means 'The Sacred Fold', and should always be used in full. 'Hazira' means 'a stable'!!





## EALING BAHÁ'Í COMMUNITY

With forty-five other floats, this display, constructed by members of the Ealing Bahá'í Community, was drawn through the streets of Hanwell. The word 'Bahá'í' was seen by many thousands of people and the Ealing Assembly feels that their teaching work will have been enhanced by so much publicity. The float is dismantled and the Ealing Bahá'ís will be glad to lend it to any other community which might be able to make use of it.

### NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITIES

**ABERYSTWYTH** A local assembly has to be established here by Ridván 1971, and at the end of September the Maude family were joined by Miss Helene Momtaz, so bringing the total of adult believers to three. Weekly firesides are held which are well attended, but many extra activities are planned for the autumn and winter in an effort to stimulate further interest in the Faith amongst the people of the town. Nora Maude offered a slide show to local Women's Institutes entitled 'Round the World with the Bahá'ís' and has been placed on a list of speakers which is circulated to the fifty-seven Women's Institutes in the county. Women's Institutes do not accept talks on religion or politics, but if a slide show offered is of the 'travel' type it is acceptable.

**BERMONDSEY** Under a prominent headline — "Religious movement pays the price of enthusiasm" a London local newspaper recently carried an article about the Faith, an extract from which follows:— "A group of Bermondsey people who joined a religious movement have broken up — because they were so enthusiastic! The members of the Bahá'í Faith decided to travel to other parts of the country to start new groups."

**HARINGEY** Jagdish Saminaden, chairman of Haringey Local Assembly, London, interviewed Meherangiz Munsiff of Wandsworth Local Assembly on the programme 'London calling Mauritius', of the BBC Overseas Regional Service, on the ideal of Justice which the Bahá'ís are striving to establish in the world and sent her greetings to the Friends in the Indian Ocean who were holding their Oceanic Conference in Rose Hill, Mauritius.

From the Oceanic Conference, Board Member from India, Shirin Bowman, sent this message. "It was indeed very wonderful to have a representative from London in the person of R. Runganailaloo of Haringey. We are sure he carried the spirit and the great success achieved at the Oceanic Conference. He will surely convey all that he witnessed but he cannot fully describe the joy and the spiritual atmosphere which prevailed and ended in 170 friends offering their services as pioneers. Dear Friends, please pray at the resting place of the beloved Guardian for the success of these pioneers. Much Love, Shirin Bowman."

**LEICESTER** One Sunday in September some of the Leicester friends met together at their centre to say the Remover of Difficulties 500 times. It took them an hour and fifty minutes and their reason was to pray for the achievement of the goals of the Nine Year Plan.

**LONDONDERRY** The Londonderry Group has lost four new declarants who had to move away for various reasons, and the group was reduced to FOUR again just after the BAHÁ'Í EXHIBITION held earlier this year. Great publicity was achieved during the Exhibition — Linda Marshall spoke in schools and judged a local beauty contest. Since then the

Bahá'í Centre was involved in a fire, but was protected by the Grace of Bahá'u'lláh. Unfortunately we cannot return until early next year. The Group must be brought to Assembly status by Ridván 1971; at present a pioneer and a declaration have brought our number to SIX. We await with great happiness the arrival of another pioneer and soon we hope to form our beloved local spiritual assembly.

**SHREWSBURY** Group held an exhibition over nine days, as a result of which there were three declarations and some fifty books were sold. At a public meeting, addressed by Philip O'Brien, about twenty-five non-Bahá'ís attended. There was good publicity and 5,000 leaflets were distributed.

**SUTTON COLDFIELD** On three occasions during the past months, Sutton Coldfield have held events in Sutton Park. One of these days, a sports day and picnic, saw a gathering of over forty adults and children enjoying themselves. The friends from Birmingham and Stafford have joined us, together with some of their 'contacts', two of whom remarked how happy Bahá'ís are when they are together. We hope for more such events in the future.

**WANDSWORTH** On the 26th July the Wandsworth Assembly held a small gathering at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Munsiff for some of the new believers in London to meet one of the oldest surviving Bahá'ís in this country, Mrs. Isobel Slade. Mrs. Slade who is now ninety-six years old, lives just outside London with her family, and very rarely gets the chance to meet other Bahá'ís, so the Assembly arranged to transport her by car.

She spoke clearly and wittily about how she became a Bahá'í and of the people she knew who have already become part of Bahá'í history, names like Lady Blomfield, Mr. Asgarzadeh, Dr. Lotfullah Hakim, Dr. Esselmont, Miss Ethel Rosenberg, Effie Baker, Fugita and Martha Root. Mrs. Slade, the daughter of a parson, first heard of 'Abdu'l-Bahá at a time when she felt that the spirit of Christianity was dying out and a new prophet must have come in the East. Later she heard about the Bahá'í Faith in detail and after reading what little literature there was available in those days, accepted the Faith. At that time there was no question of signing a declaration card; she was invited to write to 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Her pilgrimage came at the crucial time between the death of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and the emergence of the Guardian as head of the Faith, and she vividly recalled her meeting with the Greatest Holy Leaf.

Her memory is almost perfect and she was able to speak, apart from a short break for tea, for about one and a half hours, virtually one minute for every year of her life. Her sense of humour and depth of understanding of human nature inspired the friends present.

It is hoped that other assemblies will discover that these rare and precious souls, of whom few are still with us in this world, can give such inspiration and pleasure, and will in return give them the chance to meet the fruits of their fortitude and steadfastness.



## THE TRAGIC LOSS OF A VALIANT PIONEER

At a time when a small band of Bahá'ís of the Republic of Ireland have been struggling to build up the two new Spiritual Assemblies of Cork and Limerick, essential to the establishment of their National Assembly, the Hand of Providence suddenly robbed them of one of their most dedicated and self sacrificing pioneers — Stan Wrout.

When the call for Pioneers was raised at the Teaching Conference in Birmingham, Stan — a relatively new Bahá'í — was the first to respond.

Filled with a spirit of faith, trusting in Bahá'u'lláh, he gave up his job in London and, in the month of May 1970, pioneered to the small city of Limerick where the prospects of employment are not good. With great confidence he persevered day after day in search of a job, but did not live long enough to find one.

On August 9th the police found his motor-bike and clothes and some personal belongings, among them his prayer book, the Hidden Words and Bahá'í pamphlets, beside a deserted beach on the south side of the Shannon estuary where he had been spending a short holiday touring the countryside. Being a poor swimmer at a place where the currents are known to be strong he was drowned. His body was washed up a week later on the north side of the estuary at a place near Kilbaha.

Grieved with this tragic loss, almost the entire Irish Community attended his funeral at the Kilbaha Cemetery situated on an open field beside the Ocean. Those who attended this Bahá'í funeral can never forget the spiritual atmosphere which was created in that beautiful spot.

No doubt those who, centuries ago, called this place Kilbaha (many towns in Ireland begin with the word 'Kil' — meaning church) were inspired to do so. And now this small village has been immortalised through this miraculous act of God.

Stan was a believer of outstanding qualities. His devotion and love for Bahá'u'lláh, his steadfastness in the Faith, his soul which radiated love and sincerity and his courteous manner derived from a high degree of humility and self-effacement which so well characterised him — all these endeared him so much to his Irish friends that his memory shall, for ever, be treasured in their hearts and his name immortalised in the annals of the Faith as an exemplary pioneer who died in the service of Bahá'u'lláh.

But this was no death — this was VICTORY!

*The Goals Committee of the Republic of Ireland.*

### STAN WROUT

He was a simple chap, Stan; sterling, so rare, honest. Quiet, determined for the right, he left his home — Farewell, awhile, to Pat — to pioneer for God; Settled in Limerick town to strengthen the Bahá'ís.

Unintroduced, there were, of course, difficulties: no work — Or none with chance of a quick start — for English; And his accent, ways and dress marked him that, There on the West's frontier with deep Shannon.

Ireland accepted, Shannon took him, one August day; Tragic and far too soon. He left a note 'Few days round Kerry on the scooter'. The weather hot; He never came alive from the green water.

Nine frantic days — his bike and clothes found by the Guards — And what housed Stan's indomitable soul washed up By ocean's fringe, Loop Head, quick for near grave.

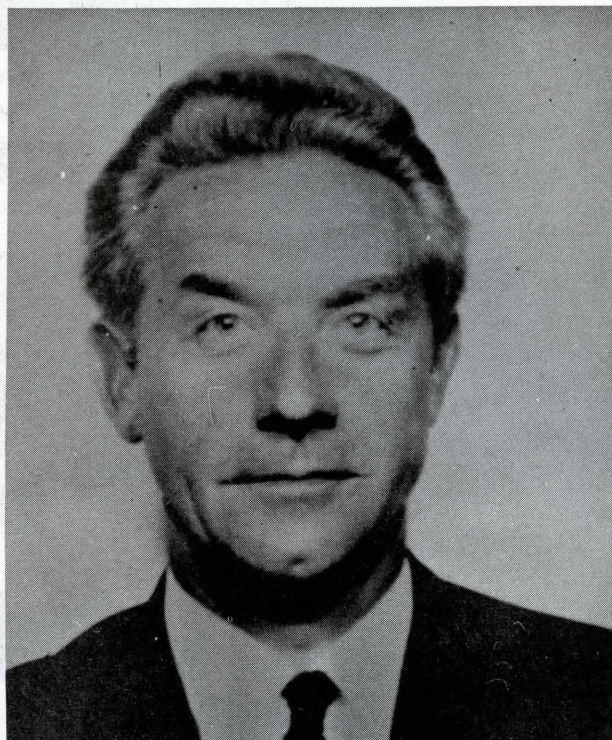
Kilbaha — Church dedicate to birch sacred to sun; And he, faithful Stan Wrout, lost life, gave all, Sacrifice for Bahá — obedience to the Sun of Truth.

*Hugh McKinley,  
Filaka, SYROS, Greece.*

### BAHÁ'Í NEWS

The American Bahá'í News is available in the British Isles on payment of £1 for twelve monthly copies (including postage). Local Spiritual Assemblies, or individuals wishing to subscribe to this publication should send their subscription directly to:

Mr. E.L. Richards,  
26 Cartwright Road, Four Oaks,  
Sutton Coldfield, Warwicks.



Cable:

"Deeply grieved tragic passing Stan Wrout. His pioneer efforts highly praiseworthy. Assure relatives prayers progress soul"

*Universal House of Justice*

Letter to Goals Committee

"His passing was indeed sad for all his Bahá'í friends but, of course, we cannot know the workings of individual destiny. What we are sure of is that he was a devoted Bahá'í and that the promises of Bahá'u'lláh are sure and bountiful...Stan will have his place in the history of the Cause in Ireland and will, no doubt, rejoice when you achieve your National Spiritual Assembly, a goal to which he was so devoted. He has been mentioned in our prayers in the Holy Shrine..."

*Universal House of Justice.*

### DALSTON HALL SUMMER SCHOOL

by Kari-Anna Christopherson

If you are a dull, selfish and ineffectual Baha'i, whose spiritual brain has got a thick crust on it, then my advice to you is go to Dalston Hall Summer School.

Well, I am such a Baha'i. I'm still dull, selfish, ineffectual and crusty-brained. But the difference between before and after is that I now know I am all these things, so at least I am in a position to do something about it.

The ingredients which go to make Dalston what it is aren't just comfy beds, nice food and country air. You can get those in lots of places. No, this cake's ingredients are special. Like good organisation, 'crust breaking' speakers and, the best spice of all, special people.

It's a pity it took me a whole week to notice just how special some people were. One of the times I saw it was when they gave a party — the youth I mean. Mind you, I think one or two were in their late sixties. Now at most parties I have been to, you just bung on a record and then you're meant to be happy for the next four hours.

This party was different — they actually did things. They sang, danced, read poems, mimed — in a way only people wanting to please others could. Then there were the speakers, the slide shows, the devotional meetings, the chairing of meetings; everybody contributed and that is what made it good. After all, the week might have been different. We might have sat in comfy chairs for two thirds of the day, eaten our food, stretched our legs and wondered if it was going to rain or not, and the most marvellous talks in the world wouldn't have done the trick. So to all the special people, who made everyone else happy, thank you!



## AMEND YOUR GOALS CHART

+ or - indicates gain or loss.

3. Isolated Centres	181+	Total localities	377+
a) Mull	3+		
d) Chelmsford	5+	Lincoln	6-
Oakham	4+	Shrewsbury	8+
e) Northampton	6+	Epsom	5-
Durham	5-	Blackpool	6-
Nottingham	8-	Poole	8-
g) N' Berwick	3+		
h) Stornaway	3-		
i) Aberdeen	9+		
j) Newport	7-		
k) Craigavon	2+	Londonderry	7+
	Castlereagh R.D.	6-	

## Overseas

Faroes	1+	Uganda — Two vacancies, some
Malta	1+	trying
Tanzania — some trying:		Fiji — Some trying
Thailand	2+	

## VACANCIES — NATIONAL OFFICE

**Secretary/Shorthand Typist** — to replace Elizabeth Asbury who, after most valuable service to the Cause, leaves in a few months' time for pioneer service in a French-speaking goal in Canada.

**Caretaker** — preferably a Bahá'í couple, to be resident Caretaker/Receptionist to enable the national Hazratu'l-Quds to be open to the believers at all reasonable times.

Applications for these posts to the Secretary,  
National Spiritual Assembly,  
27 Rutland Gate, London S.W.7.

## BAHÁ'Í DISPLAY AT THE WELSH NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD

For the fourth time in five years a Bahá'í stand was erected at the Welsh National Eisteddfod held this year in Ammanford, Carm. An estimated 50,000 people from all corners of Wales, and many from overseas, attended during the six days' cultural festival, and many hundreds of these passed by each day. The display, which was designed to be very bright and colourful, yet simple and direct in its message, attracted continuous and sustained interest. The sympathetic approach and keen interest shown by many enquirers each day brought great joy to those Bahá'ís who were privileged to help in manning the display. It seemed to us to be a confirmation of the words from the Universal House of Justice that people will now begin to be prepared to listen more than has been the case in the past.

A bounty for which we had hardly dared to hope was vouchsafed within a few hours of opening, when a twenty-year old youth from Llanelli came to ask for more information. He had first heard of this Revelation from Margaret Metcalf, our pioneer in Llanelli, some twelve months previously. After one brief hour's conversation he asked for, and signed, a declaration card.

The eye-arresting centre-piece of the display was a wall-paper merchant's display machine which had been converted to show thirty-five consecutive statements about the Faith. A very large number of those who passed by paused to read this four minute programme through from start to finish, and most of them were seen to help themselves to a 'Questions and Answers' leaflet from the adjacent stand.

A fireside gathering in the tent for each of three evenings was well supported by young people, some of whom are now continuing their investigations into His Cause. Altogether a most rewarding and heart-warming week of continuous teaching.

Committees and assemblies who are anticipating the staging of a shop window or other display may do well to consider the use of our 'Bahá'í-o-scope'.....it really is most effective, and it would be a pity for such a valuable but extremely effective teaching medium to remain in idleness. If you would like to borrow it for a display, please contact the secretary of the Welsh Goals Committee:

Mrs. Nora Maude,  
Talley, Penglais Road,  
Aberystwyth.

## PIONEER NEWS

**ALDIE and AVRIL ROBERTS**, with their family, have left for a most challenging pioneer assignment in **BANGKOK**, where Aldie has a two-year contract with Thompson Newspapers. The family were able to have a few days' happy reunion with Aldie's father and mother before leaving, and before his father, John Roberts, began his British tour.

**RICHARD BURY** achieves great distinction by being the first pioneer to settle in the challenging post in the **FAROEES** since Eskil Ljungberg, Knight of Bahá'u'lláh, reached those islands in the early years of the Ten Year Crusade. Richard had intended to travel with **MICHAEL and MARION CLEASBY**, but responded to the call to go there first to find accommodation for them all.

From Sheffield, Una Coward writes:— The departure of **ANNE and FRED HALLIDAY** to their pioneer post in **LIMERICK** meant a loss to the Sheffield community of a truly Bahá'í home. The regular weekly fireside meeting has been held in their home and they have kept 'open house' for Bahá'ís and non-Bahá'ís alike. Visiting speakers were entertained and given overnight accommodation; youth in distress found help and advice available even though discussions often went on long after midnight. Several youth, both Persian and British, stayed for long periods in this home. Their loving and unflinching hospitality has brought endless comfort to the lonely and earned undying gratitude. Though it may not be possible for all Bahá'í householders to offer such complete Bahá'í service, whenever it can be offered it is a great bounty to the Bahá'í community and is worthy of gratitude and appreciation. May they prosper in Limerick, where, with **MR. JIM BRADLEY**, also of Sheffield, they have moved as a 'family' and set up another Bahá'í home.

**ANNELIESE HAUG**, after many years of stalwart pioneering in her lonely post in **STORNAWAY**, leaves to spend a short time in Germany, prior to moving on to an important pioneer post in **CRETE**. Her loving nature and dedication to the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh has made a deep and lasting impression upon the islanders of Lewis and she will be sorely missed. She moves to Crete with the full support of the British and German NSAs, but now 'her place is empty'. Would you like to fill it?

**ANN THORN** consulted with the Pioneer Committee after her recent pilgrimage and is now settled in **EPSOM** — a town sadly depleted by the move to Haifa of Ron Bates and his family and by the marriage and move of Thelma Batchelor (nee Halbert). Thelma and her husband are passing through Haifa on their way to the Solomon Islands.

**RUTH RIDING** arrives to take up her new post in the goal town of **DUNDEE** on 19 October. She will therefore have to relinquish membership on the Overseas Goals Committee.

**FUAD TAEED** left by charter plane with Shidan and Susan Kouchezkadeh on their return to **SIERRA LEONE, WEST AFRICA**. If he fails to obtain entrance to the university, he will proceed on an extensive teaching tour in the area before returning to the United Kingdom to complete his studies.





## TRAVEL TEACHING COMMITTEE

We would like to thank those friends who have sent details of their firesides, public meetings and study classes and a further list is published below. There are still nearly sixty centres which have not returned their questionnaires and we appeal to them to do so in order that travel teachers may be assisted to visit them on the right days.

At Harlech Summer School we were very happy to have so many offers of travel teachers. Itineraries have already been worked out for them and we are ready to receive more offers. Amongst those who will be making their tours this year are Mr. Geoff Bridle, Mr. Edgar Boyett, Mr. Shahab FatheAzam, Dr. and Mrs. Rabbani, Mrs. Ena Coulson, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Smith, Mr. Ananda Thalia, Mrs. Jean Pitcher and Mrs. Betty Goode. There were also many kind offers of open house for travel teachers. Travel Teaching stimulates both the travel teacher and the area he visits and we urge each one of you who is able to travel, even if it is only a short distance for a short while, to let us know as soon as possible. There are many goals still to be won by next Ridvan — every Bahá'í should feel responsible for their achievement and travel teaching is an exciting, rewarding and pleasurable way to co-operate in this venture.

All enquiries to:

Mrs. Sylvia Benatar,  
63 Hurst Park Avenue,  
Cambridge CB4 2AA.  
Tel: 0223—51467.

## HOW WELL DO YOU READ YOUR 'JOURNAL'?

ANSWERS from page Two

- 1 Page Four, to see if the four totals did really add up to £26,150.
- 2 To assist in 'arousing and releasing the power to accomplish' the tasks facing the entire body of the believers. 'Journal' No.197 Page 2 quoted from the Universal House of Justice.
- 3 Acts of unwisdom and ignorance by the Baha'is. Universal House of Justice. No. 200, P. Two Col.2.
- 4 'Malodorous'. Page Six Col. 2 — refers to smoking.
- 5 The third Sunday of January. 'Journal' No. 198, Page 8.
- 6 The late Hand of the Cause George Townshend; Thomas Breakwell and Dr. Esslemont. No. 195 Page 3.

## PUBLISHING TRUST NEWS

## RECENT PUBLICATION

"Meditations on the Eve of November 4th" by A.Q. Faizi.

On the evening of November 4th, 1957, Hand of the Cause Mr. A.Q. Faizi stood on the shores of the Straits of Magellan, at the southern extremity of the South American continent meditating on the passing of the Beloved Guardian.

These profound thoughts are now presented for the friends in delightful book form and the Trust is fortunate to be able to offer this first edition at the price of a mere five shillings, due entirely to the generous subsidy of one of the friends.

## FIRESIDES, PUBLIC MEETINGS AND STUDY CLASSES

ABERYSTWYTH	Dr. and Mrs. D. Maude, 'Talley', Penglais Road,	Firesides	Saturdays/Sundays
BANGOR (Co. DOWN)	Bahá'í Centre, 40 Dufferan Avenue	Firesides	Thursdays 8.00 p.m.
BANGOR (WALES)	Mr. Kevin Beint, 69 Caernarvon Road	Firesides	By arrangement
BEDFORD	Mr. M. Lee, 29 Aspen Avenue	Firesides	Wednesdays 8.00 p.m.
BELFAST	53 High Street	Firesides	Wednesdays 8.00 p.m.
BRADFORD	Mr. S. Sadeghian, 67 Whiteways	Firesides	Alternate Tuesdays 8.00 p.m.
BRISTOL	45 Sefton Park Road, Ashley Down	Firesides	Wednesdays
CARDIFF	Mr. C' Card, 13 Mynachdy Road	Firesides	By arrangement
CASTLEREAGH R.D.	Mr. and Mrs. Shields, 285 Lower Braniel Road, Gilmakirt, Belfast	Firesides	Tuesdays 8.00 p.m.
CHELMSFORD	Mr. and Mrs. Peter Moore, 11 Cramphorn Walk Mr. and Mrs. Peter Moore, 11 Cramphorn Walk	Firesides Prayers	Mondays 7.30 p.m. Thursdays 7.30 p.m.
CHESTER	Newton Secretarial School, 14 Bridge Street, Row West Keith Dodd, 21 The Groves	Firesides Firesides	First Mondays 8.00 p.m. Other Mondays
CRAIGAVON	Dr. R. Jamshidi, The Hospital, Lurgan, Co. Armagh	Firesides	Alternate Mondays
HEREFORD	Mr. B. Leith, 26 John Venn Building, Bath Street	Firesides	Wednesdays
IPSWICH	63 Nelson Road Dr. Maani, St. Clements Hospital, Foxhall Road (Tel. 77255 ex.12) 83a Felixstowe Road (Tel. 58499)	Firesides Firesides Firesides	Tuesdays 8.00 p.m. Thursdays 8.00 p.m. First & Third Fridays
KENDAL	Telephone 22847	Firesides Firesides	Fridays 7.30 p.m. Fourth Saturdays 7.30 p.m.
LINCOLN	Mr. D. Battman, 1 Woodfield Avenue, Birchwood (Tel. 22537) Mr. D. Battman, 1 Woodfield Avenue, Birchwood (Tel. 22537)	Firesides Study Classes	Alternate Wednesdays Alternate Wednesdays
LIVERPOOL	Mr. and Mrs. G. Bowers, 65 Sandown Road, Wavetree (Tel. 051-733-2547) Mrs. P. Brackenridge, 5 Langdale Road	Firesides Firesides	Thursdays Thursdays
LONDON BOROUGHS			
BRENT	Mr. and Mrs. H. Afnan, 92 Preston Road, Wembley	Firesides	Mondays
HAVERING	139 Mawney Road, Romford	Firesides	Alternate Fridays
WANDSWORTH	Mr. and Mrs. E. Munsiff, 28 Inner Park Road, SW19	Firesides	First Wednesdays
NEWCASTLE—ON—TYNE	Mrs. M. Jameson, 78 Wingrove Road	Firesides	Tuesdays (by arrangement)
NEWPORT	Mr. V. Bartlett, 90 Stow Hill	Firesides	Fridays
NEWTON—AYCLIFFE	Mr. M. Blakey, 81 Hawkshead Place (Tel. Aycliffe 4273)	Firesides	Fridays 8.15 p.m.
PONTYPRIDD	Mrs. Irene House, 108 Wordsworth Gardens	Firesides	Fridays
POOLE	Mrs. D. Brown, Flat 3, 72 Parkstone Road,	Firesides	Saturdays 3.00 p.m.
RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT	Miss Kitty Glover, 7 St. Mary's Close, Upton Road	Firesides	By arrangement
ST. AUSTELL	Mr. and Mrs. B. Huxtable, 3 Fore Street, (Tel. PAR 2647)	Firesides	Saturdays 2.30 p.m.
SHREWSBURY	Mrs. Rosalee Bennett, Flat 3, Shelton Hospital	Firesides	Wednesdays



## ENGLISH GOALS COMMITTEE

Dear Friends,

As you will see from the following reports, some of the news from these communities is out of date or, at best, a little hazy. Therefore the English Goals Committee would appreciate being notified by any of the Goal Towns or Lapsed Assemblies about their future plans and activities as many months in advance as possible in order that full publicity may be given to these events. Also, please notify us immediately of any additions to, or moves from your community. Please give names and addresses and date of birth (if under twenty-one). This information should be sent to:

The Secretary, English Goals Committee,  
Mrs. Patricia Green,  
1534 Stratford Road,  
Hall Green, Birmingham B28 9HA.

The achievement of the goals of the Nine Year Plan involves the participation of the whole British Bahá'í Community, not just the friends in the Goal Towns and Lapsed Assemblies. We look to you all to help us to win these Goals.

With loving Bahá'í Greetings.

English Goals Committee.

**AYLESBURY** Unfortunately, the National Assembly were most regretfully obliged to withhold recognition of the Aylesbury Assembly last Ríḍvan following queries on residence. This means, therefore, that Ayelsbury, who have a total of seven Bahá'ís at present, need another two by Ríḍvan, 1971.

**BANGOR** (which comes under the jurisdiction of the E.G.C. although it is in Wales) — This community is strengthened by the arrival of Mina Rowshan (now Mrs. Kevin Beint). It is hoped that Richard St. Barbe Baker will be visiting Bangor during his tour of Wales and there is no doubt that with Mina and Kevin establishing a Bahá'í home there will be plenty of activity in the coming months. The goal for Bangor is to achieve Assembly status by Ríḍvan, 1972.

**CHELMSFORD** This young community is truly full of the love and spirit of Bahá'u'lláh and held their first Weekend School on the 26/27 September. They have been delighted to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Behrouz and family from Iran which brings the total of Bahá'ís there to five adults and two youth. It is hoped that the London Communities in particular will give these friends all the assistance they can with their teaching work to enable them to form their Assembly by Ríḍvan, 1971.

**CARLISLE** This continues to be a thriving community with a total of seven Bahá'ís. They are also assisted in their teaching work by the friends from Burnley, Kendal and other surrounding communities and are well on the way to achieving their assembly by next Ríḍvan.

**DERBY** At present there are only two Bahá'ís resident in Derby and the English Goals Committee would be grateful for any assistance, either teaching or financial, from communities in their locality. The goal is to achieve an assembly by Ríḍvan, 1972.

**DURHAM** This community, like Aylesbury, was unfortunately not recognised as an assembly last Ríḍvan because of residential queries. Their number is now down to five and assistance from communities in their area is required to help them form their assembly next Ríḍvan.

**HEREFORD** Gloria Faizi has now moved from Hereford but has left behind a small but enthusiastic group of four Bahá'ís. Erica Lewis (now Mrs. Barney Leith) has joined the community and many activities are planned for the coming months. Their goal is to achieve an assembly by next Ríḍvan.

**KENDAL** The achievement of Kendal in achieving their goal of nine Bahá'ís by Ríḍvan, 1971, in June of this year is truly wonderful. It is a real example of what can be done with enthusiasm and sustained teaching. Having reached their target, instead of sitting back and 'taking it easy' they are turning their attention to assisting Carlisle and also Blackpool (they are now down in number as three of their community have moved overseas).

**KIDDERMINSTER** The two lone pioneers in Kidderminster have activities planned for the coming months including a One Day School in October. Assistance at their weekly Wednesday Firesides would be warmly welcome from any community near enough to attend.

**LINCOLN** This community now has eight Bahá'ís having recently had two declarations. They are a very active and enthusiastic group and hold regular Firesides on Wednesdays. They are ably assisted by the friends from Nottingham and Sheffield and have every confidence that they will achieve their goal of an assembly by Ríḍvan, 1971.

**OAKHAM** This community will soon have four Bahá'ís resident with the arrival of Derek and Seema Cockshut. They are assisted by visits from the friends in Leicester and would appreciate any assistance which other neighbouring communities can give.

**RYDE** The two lone believers on the Isle of Wight (one of whom is resident in Ryde) continue to make contacts and spread the Teachings in this rather difficult area. Please note that they are holding a Weekend School on the 14/15 November next and we urge all the friends who are able to visit them to support them on this occasion.

**SHREWSBURY** You will be aware of the tremendous activity which is taking place in Shrewsbury, they have had five declarations over a period of about six months! They are certainly well on the way to achieving their goal of an assembly by Ríḍvan, 1971. In September Philip O'Brien from Ireland spoke at a Public Meeting which was very well attended and the friends have put together an Exhibition to be shown locally. Do support them in their future activities as often as you are able.

**ST. AUSTELL** The friends in St. Austell, who now total four, held their first Weekend School on the 10/11 October. There is no doubt that Cornwall is not an easy place to establish the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh and we ask for your prayers and assistance to help the friends in the achievement of an assembly by next Ríḍvan. Please visit them whenever you can.

**ST. HELIER** (Jersey) The friends in St. Helier continue the difficult task of establishing the Faith in the Channel Islands. There are only two of them and they hold Firesides every Wednesday evening in a room loaned to them by a friend. Please pray for them and give any assistance you feel possible. I know they would be delighted to hear from any of the friends; please write to Miss Beryl de Gruchy, 12 Bagot Manor Avenue, Bagot, Jersey, Channel Islands, and help to support them in this lonely outpost.

**GUERNSEY** (Channel Islands) This island remains unopened.

**ISLE OF MAN** The Island still needs to be opened, preferably by a native Manx — any offers???

## LAPSED ASSEMBLIES:

**EPSOM** With the departure of Ron Bates and his family to Haifa (our warmest love to them for the success of their work at the World Centre) and also the departure of Thelma Halbert and her husband to the Solomon Islands, Epsom is very sadly depleted. It is hoped that the London Borough Communities can actively assist this community so to all the friends in London — this means you!!! We need a barrage of activity if they are to form their assembly next Ríḍvan. If you are not sure how to contact the friends in Epsom, please contact the Secretary of the E.G.C. direct.

**NORTHAMPTON** This lapsed assembly needs assistance in teaching and loving visits from the friends, also your prayers. Please do your best to support them.

**PETERBOROUGH** The friends in Peterborough are enthusiastically engaged in the task of regaining their assembly by next Ríḍvan. They are now down to seven, due to pioneer moves, so please help them all you can with visits and prayers.

**YORK** With the departure of Bahiyyih and Paul Adams for Glasgow, this community is now down to six. They are fortunate in being very actively assisted by the assemblies of Bradford and Leeds and have embarked upon a series of monthly public meetings which are held on the second Thursday of every month. Please give every assistance to this concentrated effort at teaching the Faith in York by either attending the public meetings or offering to assist in any way you can. Please contact Mrs. Lois Hainsworth, Secretary of the Leeds Local Assembly, 'Green', Allerton Park, Leeds LS7 4ND.





A happy group at one of the Cardell's 'farm picnics'.

These picnics have been held now for five years and altogether about 2,400 people have attended. They provide a happy opportunity for a completely informal get-together of Baha'is, their children and their friends. Alicia and Ted say: 'Come early, stay late — bring your own sandwiches, but plenty of tea provided. All are most welcome'.

**For your diary:— 1971 farm picnics will be held on the first Sundays in**

**June, July, August and September.**

**Manor Farm, Great Paxton, St. Neots, Huntingdon.**

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

17	October	National Youth Conference, Birmingham
20	October	BIRTHDAY OF THE BAB (Holy Day on which work should be suspended).
24	October	United Nations Day
4	November	Feast of Qudrat (Power)
6,7,8	November	National Spiritual Assembly, London
12	November	BIRTHDAY OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH (Bahá'í Holy Day)
23	November	Feast of Qawl (Speech)
26	November	Day of the Covenant
28	November	Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Bahá
28/29	November	Overseas Goals Committee
12	December	Feast of Masa'il (Questions)

#### HELP NEEDED IN ABERYSTWYTH

October 24 — 31

The Aberystwyth Group are planning a week of intensive activity from October 24 to 31. We are a very isolated group and in order to make a success of this week we need the support of as many of the friends as possible. A variety of meetings will be held and it is hoped to rent a shop in which to have a manned display.

Aberystwyth is a lovely town by the sea. Why not have a few days holiday here and help to serve the Faith at the same time? But if you can only come for one afternoon or evening you would be more than welcome.

For full information write to the secretary of the group:

Mrs. Nora Maude,  
Talley, Penglais Road,  
Aberystwyth, Cards. Wales.

#### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 21st March — 31st August 1970 (inclusive)

Income		Expenditure	
Donations		N.S.A.	
L.S.A.s and Groups	£1133	Travel	£ 446
Individuals	£2537	Office	£2614
		Telephone and Cables	2
Dividends and Interest	£ 636	Postages, Literature, Stationery	£ 508
		Malawi	£1001
Refunds	£ 287	Solicitors/Accountants	£ 453
		E.G.C.	£ 170
Other Sources		Irish, Scottish, Welsh G.C.	£ 258
(this includes sale of securities)	£5328**	O.G.C.	£ 640
		Pioneer Committee	£1429
Haziratu'l-Quds	£ 42	Other Committees	£ 239
Dublin Haziratu'l-Quds	£ 16	Haziratu'l-Quds	£ 548
		Dublin Haziratu'l-Quds	£ 273
		Payments against Covenants	£ 236
		Excess of income over expenditure	£1162
	£9979		£9979

\*\*It should be noted that because of the precarious position of the Fund it was unfortunately necessary to sell securities worth £2608.0.2 and this is reflected in the present Bank Balance.

\*It should be noted that a payment of £1001.6.6 was sent to Malawi as a donation towards the building of Haziratu'l-Quds in that country. This is part of our 'assistance' goals.

#### THE CURRENT POSITION IS VERY SERIOUS

If you turn back to the last 'Baha'i Journal' (July/August 1970) you will see that donations from the L.S.A.s and individual believers need to reach the sum of £16,580, as a minimum to keep the work of the Cause going. Now, if you look again at the statement above, you will see that donations for 5 months total £4,669.17.11. This means that we are behind our target by £2,238.8.9 for the five months of this financial year. This is a serious position, and again we appeal to every single believer to search his heart, and turn his or her thoughts to the words of the Universal House of Justice when they made the plea for us all to give until it hurts. Already the National Assembly has shared with you fully the position, and really, to keep the Fund solvent, it need not 'hurt' as much as all that, but it does need **Universal Participation**, for if each of us give what we can, the fact we are all participating in this precious way to our beloved Cause, will result in tremendous happenings. The very act of every single soul taking part releases wonderful powers.

**Panama Temple Fund** Donations to the Panama Temple Fund, from 3rd May (when new Treasurer took over) to 31st August total £99.8.0.

**International Fund** Donations to the International Fund for the same period total £235.16.0.

#### PARTICIPANTS Communities contributing — 3rd May-31st August 1970:—

Aylesbury (3), Bangor, N. Ireland, Bath (3), Belfast (2), N. Berwick, Birmingham (3), Blackpool (5), Bradford, Brent, Brighton, Bristol, Burnley, (2), Cambridge (4), Camden, Canterbury (2), Cardiff (2), Castlereagh, Cheadle & Gatley (2), Chelmsford (2), Chester, Croydon (3), Dumbarton, Dunlaoghaire (2), Ealing, Eccles (7), Edinburgh, Epsom (2), Exeter, Famagusta (Cyprus), Hammersmith (3), Haringay (2), Havering, Hereford (4), Inverness, Jersey, Kendal, Kensington & Chelsea, Kirkwall (4), Lambeth, Larne R.D. (3), Leeds, Leicester (3), Limerick (4), Lincoln (2), Liverpool (3), Londonderry (2), Manchester (2), Motherwell, Malta, Nelson, Newcastle (2), Newport (2), Nottingham (2), Oxford (3), Poole (3), Portsmouth (2), Sheffield (3), Shrewsbury, Southport (4), Stafford (6), Stockport, Stornoway (5), St. Austell, Sutton Coldfield, Swansea, Swinton (2), Wandsworth (7), Watford, Winchester (3), Wokingham R.D. (2)

**ANSWERING THE APPEAL.** Our very special thanks to those Friends who promptly responded to our appeal of the 29th June to close the gap in our Bank Balance. In one week more than £800 was received, and this together with the sale of some of our securities saved what was a critical situation. The National Treasurer does not mind if she stays up all night long writing receipts so long as the precious 'life blood' comes flowing in! She longs to hear from every single soul and every L.S.A. and Group.

Betty Goode, 8 Knowle Road, Stafford.