



# BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

K. Hornell

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BAHÁ'Í YEAR 127

December 1970



A close-up of the clerestory of the Shrine of the Báb.

*"Haste thee, O Carmel! for lo, the light of the Countenance of God...hath been lifted upon thee...Rejoice, for God hath, in this Day, established upon thee His throne, hath made thee the dawning-place of His signs and the dayspring of the evidences of His Revelation. Well is it with him that circleth around thee, that proclaimeth the revelation of thy glory, and recounteth that which the bounty of the Lord thy God hath showered upon thee...He, verily, loveth the spot which hath been made the seat of His throne, which His footsteps have trodden, which hath been honoured by His presence, from which He raised His call, and upon which He shed His tears...Ere long will God sail His Ark upon Thee, and will manifest the people of Bahá who have been mentioned in the Book of Names."*

## 621 MORE PIONEERS NEEDED

To all National Spiritual Assemblies

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

All National Spiritual Assemblies have been aware of the urgency of our Ridván 1969 message to the Bahá'ís of the world when the call was raised for pioneers to settle in territories in need of pioneer support or as yet unopened to the Faith, and have been cognizant of the emphasis which was placed on the need for the believers to arise quickly to ensure the success of the Nine Year Plan in the pioneer field.

Since that call was raised, no less than 330 of the pioneer posts in the 184 specified territories in the globe have been filled, and in a few of those territories additional pioneers have arrived to supplement the ranks of Bahá'u'lláh's followers at those posts.

As you will note from the attached list showing the current status of pioneer goals, some 417 pioneers must yet arise and settle in the posts previously assigned. After a recent review of pioneer needs we find it is necessary to call upon the valiant, constantly-swellng community of believers throughout all continents to fill yet another 204 pioneer posts where manpower is desperately needed, in some territories in order to win the minimum number of Assemblies or localities called for in the Plan, and in

others where vast new mass teaching areas have been opened to the Faith, thus necessitating additional reinforcements who must arrive soon if the precious gains are to be retained. These 204 new pioneer goals have been assigned to specific National Spiritual Assemblies.

Despite the magnitude of this undertaking and the grave challenge which your communities face in ensuring the homefront goals, we are compelled to point out that each of these goals assigned must be considered as a minimum requirements. Pioneers unable to go to the goals assigned by their own National Spiritual Assembly should be encouraged to fill goals assigned to other National Assemblies. Of course a self-supporting believer is free to settle as a pioneer in any country he chooses.

We call upon the friends to act promptly and decisively in this vital international undertaking in which the followers of Bahá'u'lláh are, in all continents of the globe, summoned to participate. The time is short and the effort required is truly formidable.

We shall offer ardent prayers at the Holy Shrines, supplicating that the waves of pioneers required to complete this urgent task of the present hour shall arise and quickly rush forth into the arena of service.

With loving Bahá'í greetings.

*Universal House of Justice*

Although this call went out to all National Assemblies in August we did not in Britain receive delivery of it and it has only just reached us. No new assignments have been given in this letter to the British Bahá'í Community so the full list of all the new goals is not being published. Our own goals are extracted for the friends again to study and meditate upon. Any overseas pioneer offer for any territory should be made to the Overseas Goals Committee. Words are not used lightly by the Universal House of Justice and "...time is short..." Offer now, it may take some considerable time from the actual offer to the final settlement but it is important to set the process in motion as quickly as possible.

Territory	Number	Assemblies involved	Progress report
<b>Europe</b>			
Isle of Man	1	British Isles	One trying
Guernsey	1	British Isles	No one yet
<b>Africa</b>			
Dahomey	2	British Isles	Family trying
S.W. Africa	1	British Isles and Germany	Challenge not yet met
Tanzania	2	British Isles	Nine trying
Uganda	2	British Isles	Eight trying
<b>Asia</b>			
Hong Kong	2	British Isles and Malaysia	Four trying
Gilbert and Ellice Islands	6	British Isles and six other N.S.A.s	Three trying
Fiji	4	British Isles and four other N.S.A.s	Family trying
India	2	British Isles	No offers
Pakistan	2	British Isles	No offers
Thailand	2	British Isles	Goal achieved
Tokelau Islands	1	British Isles	Possibly achieved
Line Islands	1	British Isles	Seemingly impossible
<b>Americas</b>			
Belize	1	British Isles and Guatemala	Goal almost achieved

### PROCLAMATION — AT LAST

At long long last, after two years of working to overcome many obstacles, the Proclamation activities have started in earnest.

Books have been presented to the Prime Minister, Edward Heath; leaders of the Labour and Liberal parties, Harold Wilson and Jeremy Thorpe; Foreign Secretary, Sir Alec Douglas-Home; Historian, Arnold Toynbee; Cardinal Heenan; Roy Jenkins; Cecil King; former Minister of Education, Mr. Short; Mr. Penry Jones and many others are being given weekly as we go to print. A formidable list of other 'leaders of thought' is being systematically worked through, draft letters to arrange presentations are available for assemblies and groups, specimen press releases are available, special tours are being arranged for people with publicity value, and a full report for discussion on this subject will be featured at Teaching Conference.

## THE GATHERING MOMENTUM

A letter, addressed to the British Bahá'í Youth, but of great import for every believer, from Hand of the Cause, William Sears.

Beloved friends and co-workers:

Marguerite and I have just returned from a five month trip which has carried us to fourteen countries with most of our time spent in Persia, the Cradle of our Faith. During our travels, we remembered the Bahá'í Youth in your area with special prayers at all the holy places associated with our wonderful Cause, beginning in your own region with prayers at the Resting Place of our beloved Guardian. We said prayers on your behalf in each of the three holy Shrines in Israel, at the House of the Báb in Shiraz, the House of Bahá'u'lláh in Teheran, in Tabriz, the site of the martyrdom of the blessed Báb, at Maku, Chiriq, Badasht, Shaykh Tabarsi, and at the other sacred places made famous by those unique souls, the Dawn-Breakers of this glorious Age.

I remembered the many happy and exciting hours we spent together when I had the bounty of travelling through your Region. As I looked over my notes, I was impressed again by the many wonderful things our beloved Guardian said about your part of the world, and the victories that were almost within your grasp. Our prayers were said in hopes that this would be the year in which those victories would become a reality. As the Bahá'í Youth are saying in many parts of the world: "**Let's Get It Done in '71!**" This seems to be the year for Homefront victories on every front.

Imagine! **35 territories** in the Bahá'í world have achieved all of their **Local Assembly Goals** for the Nine Year Plan. **108 territories** have achieved all of their **locality goals, including some Iron Curtain countries!** There are now nearly **40,000 centres** in the Bahá'í World! All of these were achieved five months ago when reported at Ridván 1970, and were given to me to share with the friends at the Oceanic Conference in Mauritius Island. By now these figures are obsolete as the mighty 'radiant army of Bahá'u'lláh' marches on toward unprecedented victories. What a thrilling message it would be if at Ridván 1971, your National Spiritual Assembly, the 'heroic Generals' of the Nine Year Plan directing this all-important management in your Region, were to cable the World Centre: "**All Homefront Goals won in British Isles!**" Next Ridván we shall have over **100 National Spiritual Assemblies** representing over **three hundred** countries, territories, and islands. What a thrilling commotion it would stir in the Bahá'í world if the majority of them were to report their Local Assembly and locality goals all accomplished on that historic occasion with two full years of the Plan still to go! The momentum is gathering rapidly. May the Youth of the British Isles increase its intensity.

In 1939, the beloved Guardian promised to you a 'harvest unexampled in its abundance and glory', a gradual victory that has been gathering speed since the first seeds of our world-redemptive Faith were sewn in your area well over half a century ago. Why should not this be the year when these smouldering embers burst into flame?

In closing this letter of love and appreciation, I share with you again these messages which we shared and discussed in those happy days together in 1968, messages written by the beloved Guardian's secretary on his behalf to each one of you in the British Isles:

"His unfailing guidance will be vouchsafed to them in direct proportion to the degree of their consecration to their task, and the perseverance, the courage and fidelity they will display as they discharge their duties." (June 12, 1952)

"No time or effort should be wasted. All, young and old, must be aroused to a new consciousness of their collective responsibilities. A greater measure of self-sacrifice, a greater audacity, a greater reliance on the sustaining grace of Bahá'u'lláh, are required to lend the necessary impetus to the progressive unfoldment and ultimate fruition of this dynamic process..." (May 29, 1946)

"Now that the British believers see tangible results of their labours and perseverance taking shape, they should feel encouraged to make new sacrifices; a little effort on our part is so richly blessed by Bahá'u'lláh — we can only wonder what the rewards would be for a great, concerted, truly inspired effort by all members of the community." (February 26, 1944)

Beloved co-workers, colleagues, and fellow believers, why shouldn't we have that "great, concentrated, truly inspired effort by all members of the community" this year? We hold the destiny of the Cause of God in the palm of our hands in these wondrous Isles. We should never feel discouraged or dispirited by our limited numbers, or the huge mass of skeptical unbelieving people that surround us. The beloved Guardian wrote to you, in the British Isles, these marvellous words of encouragement and inspiration, saying:

"This is perhaps what is most glorious about our present activities all over the world, that we, a band not large in numbers, not possessing financial backing or the prestige of great names, should, in the name of our beloved Faith be forging ahead at such a pace, and demonstrating to future and present generations that it is the God-given qualities of our religion that are raising it up and not the transient support of worldly fame and power. All that will come later, when it has been made clear beyond the shadow of a doubt that what raised aloft the banner of Bahá'u'lláh was the love, sacrifice and devotion of His humble followers and the change that His teachings wrought in their hearts and lives." (June 20, 1942)

Let us show the world what a "change" His, Bahá'u'lláh's, teachings have "wrought in our hearts and lives" and open the doors to the hungry and thirsty disillusioned masses of humanity who are waiting for our leadership. We cannot afford to wait a moment longer. We are assured of uninterrupted guidance and confirmations from on high. Let us use them now, this year, in the closing months until Ridván 1871, as instruments for the spiritual conquest of every one of these many and richly blessed islands.

"The Beloved watches over them from the Abha Kingdom," Shoghi Effendi wrote to you in the British Isles. "The concourse on high extols their achievements and will reinforce their endeavours. They should confidently, gratefully, joyously and unitedly redouble their efforts, extend the range of their activities, rededicate themselves to their historic task and anticipate a renewed outpouring of Bahá'u'lláh's promised blessings and favours." (Ibid above)

With warmest and tenderest love to each one of you, in our common task as soldiers battling on every Homefront for the spiritual conquest of the planet; in the service of our Universal House of Justice.

Bill

Hand of the Cause of God

October 6, 1970

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CONTINENTAL BOARD OF COUNSELLORS

For the Protection and Propagation of the Bahá'í Faith  
in Europe

3rd November 1970

To all the National Spiritual Assemblies in Europe

Dear Baha'í Friends,

We were so happy to see your representatives at the Conference in Geneva last weekend and we feel sure everyone returned full of courage and stimulation for all our tasks ahead.

The following cable was sent by the Conference to the Universal House of Justice:

5 Counsellors 26 Board Members representatives 13 NSAs  
Geneva Conference blessed presence Hands Giachery  
Muhlschlegel. Reviewed together remaining goals. Con-  
scious tasks ahead needing united efforts European  
communities. Determined arise complete goals renewed  
dedication special emphasis youth activities. Supplicate  
prayers Shrines. Deepest love.

and this reply has just been received:

GREATLY ENCOURAGED CABLE GENEVA CONFER-  
ENCE. PLEASE CONVEY HANDS ALL PARTICIPANTS  
ASSURANCE ARDENT PRAYERS HOLY SHRINES  
ENTIRE BODY BELIEVERS EUROPE WILL ARISE  
RESPOND CHALLENGE FAST FLEETING WEEKS  
REMAINING PLAN REVITALISE EVERY COMMUNITY  
WIN EVERY GOAL DEEPEST LOVE  
UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

We urge you to make the House of Justice's cable known to every believer in your country and to consider urgently and carefully in your Assembly and with the friends how we can all indeed respond to the "challenge fast fleeting weeks Plan". We on our part, together with the Auxiliary Board Members, will do our best to call the attention of all the believers we meet to this message and will help in every way we can to fulfil the goals.

*Continental Board of Counsellors in Europe.*

## ATTENDANCE AT NINETEEN DAY FEASTS

It would appear that the statement of the Universal House of Justice that "...the non-Bahá'ís should be made welcome" is being given, in some communities, over emphasis and a subsequent phrase, "...it is much better to avoid such problems where possible..." is being overlooked. (Ref. 'Bahá'í Journal', No. 200, Page 3).

The Guardian said,

"...concerning Nineteen Day Feasts...as to non-Bahá'ís attending, this should by all means be avoided,...a Bahá'í should not invite a non-Bahá'í to attend..."

The National Spiritual Assembly considers that this principle of non-invitation applies equally to every part of the Feast. Even if a non-Bahá'í is waiting in an adjacent room, the believers may feel under some compulsion to hurry their consultation rather than keep the friend or relative waiting, thereby restricting their freedom.

The Guardian wrote:

"If it seems essential to expose non-Bahá'í relatives or close contacts to the spirit that should prevail at the Nineteen Day Feast, special meetings can be arranged for such purpose, wherein there could be a beautifully arranged period of devotion followed by sociability, with all members of the community in attendance."

### Additional Note

It is still found that some hosts, when selecting the readings for the devotional part of the Nineteen Day Feast, use excerpts from the Bahá'í Holy Writings which include passages on various specific teachings. The beloved Guardian made it quite clear that the readings for the Feast should be only the prayers and meditations for the central figures of our Faith. He then said,

"...if after this, there is a period of reading the teachings, his (the Guardian's) writings may be included, but this does not form part of the devotional aspect of the meeting..."

## "LET THE SPIRIT FLOW INTO THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY"

"When criticism and harsh words arise within a Bahá'í community, there is no remedy except to put the past behind one, and persuade all concerned to turn over a new leaf, and for the sake of God and His Faith refrain from mentioning the subjects which have led to misunderstanding and inharmony. The more the friends argue back and forth and maintain, each side, that their point of view is the right one, the worse the whole situation becomes.

When we see the condition the world is in today, we must surely forget these utterly insignificant internal disturbances, and rush, united, to the rescue of humanity. You should urge your fellow-Bahá'ís to support you in a strong effort to suppress every critical thought and every harsh word, in order to let the spirit of Bahá'u'lláh flow into the entire community, and unite it in His love and His service."

From a letter dated February 16, 1951, written by the beloved Guardian through his secretary to an individual.

### SCIENTOLOGY

The National Spiritual Assembly wish to share with the Friends some guidance from the World Centre, shared with us by the Continental Board of Counsellors in Europe.

"...it (Scientology) definitely appears to be one of those types of organisations with which the Bahá'ís should not become involved and which they should not waste their time upon."

## THE KEEPING OF RECORDS AND ARCHIVES:

Some time ago the National Spiritual Assembly produced a memorandum for national committees on the keeping of records and archival material. It is reproduced below as a permanent guide to local assemblies and their committees and for all new national committees.

At the end of each year the committee should ensure that all relevant material is available for the coming year:

- i) Copies of all letters from the Universal House of Justice received over the past ten years.
- ii) Minute Book or a set of file minutes for the past three years.
- iii) Copies of all letters from the National Assembly which refer to matters still relevant, over the past three years.
- iv) A 'Carried Forward' file of all matters still requiring action by the committee.
- v) Any file on matters that are likely to arise again and where past experience would be useful, reduced to their essentials.

If the committee is re-appointed these items should be handed over to the new committee. If the committee is not re-appointed then the secretary should seek guidance from the National Assembly as to whether these items should be sent to any other committee.

**Archives** Further to this carrying forward of useful information there may be a number of items worthy of being kept as Archives. The following items should be put into a single bundle and marked: "ARCHIVES. YEAR: NAME OF COMMITTEE. List of Contents", and then sent to the National Office at 27 Rutland Gate, London SW7.

- i) Minutes of all years previous to the last three, or the Minute Book when full, and a year out of date.
- ii) Any letters from Hands of the Cause, letters from outstanding Bahá'ís (such as early pioneers), and any letters which seem to be of a specially inspiring nature and useful for posterity.
- iii) Reports of any special events or campaigns that are not already included in the minutes.

All other material which is no longer of use as information or as Archives should be destroyed thoroughly, preferably burnt. If in any doubt about the archival merits of any items the officers of the committee should consult the National Assembly.

### COMMITTEES WITH RECORDS GOING BACK FURTHER THAN 1963:

Those committees should take especial care when sorting out the older records to ensure that all material that will be of use to the Bahá'í historians of the future is kept. If there is a large amount of material it may be necessary for the committee to appoint one member or person to sort the old records. The same rules as above should be followed but especial attention being taken to keep the following for Archives: Any letters from the beloved Guardian (not duplicated copies); any letters from Hands of the Cause, any letters from early pioneers and teachers; any record of the opening of towns to the Faith; letters referring to early recognition of the Faith or early opposition. Once sorted the material should be wrapped and sent to the National Office, clearly marked as above.

## BAHÁ'Í HOUSE OF WORSHIP IN PANAMA

Steadily rising into view on a 740-foot elevation, and overlooking a rapidly-developing urban area on the borders of the city of Panama, is a unique, modernistic and outstanding construction which catches the attention and incites the curiosity of all those who get a glimpse of it from the much-travelled highway connecting the cities of Panama and Colon, known as the Transisthmian Highway. This most singular building, when completed (completion projected for December 1971) will be the Baha'i House of Worship for all Latin America and will represent another monument of architectural grandeur, accentuated by elegant simplicity, colour harmony, and futuristic emphasis. It may rightly be considered a gem in the field of engineering and will not only serve to gladden the eye and warm the heart, but, most important of all, in this atmosphere of simple beauty and restful calm, the spirit of man must inevitably be lifted above the earthly and material into the very presence of the God of Life and Love, and the Creator of all things. Yet more, it will be the realisation of a hopeful dream of a House of Worship for all the believers of Latin America.

It is with some satisfaction that our Baha'i Engineer, Paul Thiele, reports that the work is progressing rapidly (in spite of unexpected delays and heavy rains) and indications are that we will meet our projected completion date of December, 1971. So far, pouring of concrete for the basic structure up to the 16-foot level balcony has been completed, as well as six of the nine sets of prestressed concrete ribs. Our goal for October is the construction of the 78-foot scaffolding of angle iron and pipe, in preparation for the installation of the dome ribs and the 240-ton nine-pointed star which will form part of the ceiling pattern. When completed, the dome will rise to a height of 78 feet from the floor of the auditorium. Actually, it will start at the balcony level with a 118-foot diameter base, curving inwards to a 14-foot diameter opening into which the symbol of the Greatest Name will be placed.

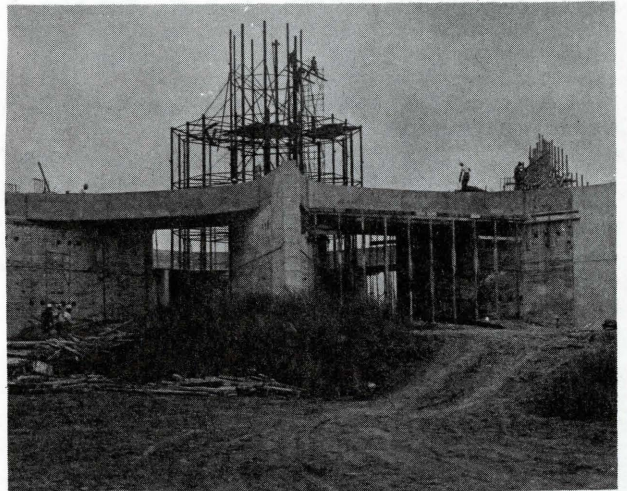
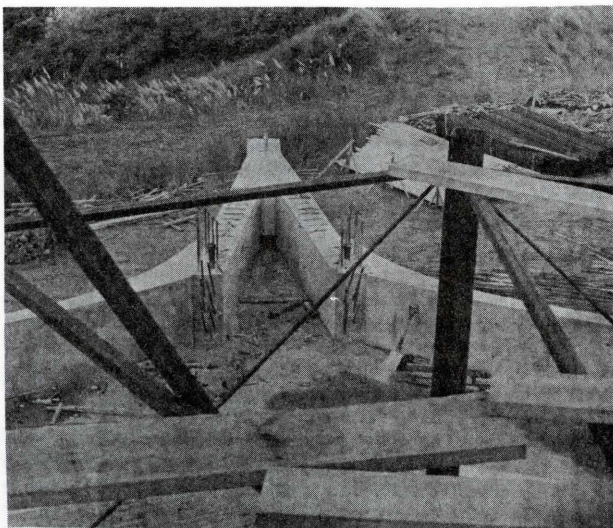
After careful study and much consultation, it is anticipated that the Gunitite process will be utilised for the dome construction. This is a process in which a dry concrete mix is sprayed under high pressure, simultaneously with water, over steel and wire mesh reinforcement forms. Expert supervision and workmanship have been guaranteed for this phase of the work.

It is expected that all concrete work on the basic structure will be completed by May, 1971. Interior decorating, caretaker's cottage and access road should be completed by December, 1971. The interior of this magnificent edifice will reflect truly creative artistic designs, as will be evidenced in wall slabs, interior plastering and terrazzo flooring of the 85-foot diameter auditorium.

Landscaping is under way and over two hundred palms, almond, rubber and flowering trees, donated by one of the friends, have been planted. There are still hundreds of trees to be planted as time and ground clearing permit.

With hearts full of joy and gratitude, the local friends assemble monthly at the site for prayers and brotherly fellowship. People from different parts of the world also pay visits to the site. This vast circular building, with no beginning or end, with its 9-pointed star and nine entrances, seems to symbolise infinite oneness, absolute tolerance and ready admittance for all regardless of colour, race, or creed.

*Star point — taken from balcony*



*Temple photograph showing scaffolding*

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

This Committee has been appointed by the National Spiritual Assembly to devise ways and means of assisting local assemblies, groups and individuals in deepening themselves in the Faith. We now have less than eighteen months left to Ridván 1972 and the attainment of our goals. To reach these goals we must teach, to teach we must deepen. In the words of the Guardian, "To strive to obtain a more adequate understanding of the significance of Bahá'u'lláh's stupendous Revelation must, it is my unalterable conviction, remain the first obligation and the object of the constant endeavour of each one of its loyal adherents."

To participate in one of our comprehensive list of projects, you only have to contact a field worker of the following list.

**The new C.D.C. secretary is Mrs. D. Prentice, 17 Wedderburn Close, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berks.**

**Fieldworkers should now contact Mr. A. White, 47 Cardinal St., Burnley, Lancs. for all project paperwork.**

#### LIST OF C.D.C. FIELDWORKERS:

- Mrs. K. Delpak, 24 Padarn Close, Lakeside, Cardiff, S. Wales.
- Mr. & Mrs. A. Morse, 33 Pentrepoeth Road, Norriston, Swansea.
- Mrs. E. Evans, 2 Craiglwyd Road, Cocket, Swansea.
- Mr. G. Grant, 552A Wilbraham Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester 21.
- Mr. P. Jenkins, 32 Lynford Avenue, Winchester, Hants.
- Mr. B. Watkins, 24 Windsor Road, Finchley, London N.3.
- Mrs. R. Afnan, 78 Castleton Avenue, Wembley, Middx.
- Mr. P. Keeley, 3 Cambridge Place, Widcombe Hill, Bath, Som.
- Mrs. C. Fothergill, 4 Tircarra Bank, Barnhill, Dundee.
- Mrs. B. Shepherd, 42 Island Bank Road, Inverness.
- Mr. B. Leith, 26 John Vann Buildings, Bath St., Hereford.
- Mr. P. O'Brien, 7 Woodside Drive, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14.
- Mrs. J. Harding, 64 Park Road, Stretford, Manchester.
- Mr. S. Jenkerson, 96 Bulan Road, Headington, Oxford.
- Mrs. B. Lewis, 21 Hyde Close, Winchester, Hants.
- Mr. & Mrs. C. Bowers, 65 Sandown Rd., Wavertree, Liverpool 15
- Mrs. S. Benatar, 63 Hurst Park Avenue, Cambridge.
- Mr. C. Black, 46 Salisbury Road, Watford, Herts.
- Mrs. I. Ghobad, 81 Kilby Close, Watford, Herts.
- Mr. J. Talbot, 84 Waverley Road, Reading, Berks.
- Mrs. L. Hainsworth, 'Treen', Allerton Park, Leeds LS7 4ND
- Mrs. J. Mehrabi, 'Carmel', New Scapa Road, Kirkwall, Orkneys.
- Mr. & Mrs. J. Turner, 2 Strowan Villas, Gardiners Hill, Cork, Irish Republic.
- Miss D. Lumsden, 22 Hallgarth Street, Durham.
- Mr. & Mrs. T. Smith, 'The Gables', Sheldon Corner, Chippenham Wilts.
- Mr. R. Maule, 31 Chatsworth Avenue, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berks.
- Miss C. Leatham, Forster Green Hospital, Fortbreda, Belfast.
- Mr. S. Firoozmand, 191 North Approach, Kingswood, Watford, Herts.
- Mr. B. Dalal, 82 Wavertree Road, London S.W.2.
- Mr. & Mrs. R. Prentice, 17 Wedderburn Close, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berks.
- Mr. A. White, 47 Cardinal Street, Burnley, Lancs.
- Mr. T. Richards, 26 Cartwright Road, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, Warwicks.
- Mr. M. Cortazzi, 8 Orbit Close, Gorse Ride Estate, Finchampstead, Berks.
- Miss S. Riches, 8 Lime Grove, Bath, Somerset.
- Mrs. R. Bartlett, 254c Cromwell Road, Newport, Mons.
- Mrs. K. Hyett, 118 Kingsbury Road, London NW9 0AY
- Mr. T. Mackenzie, 89 Woodgrove Road, Burnley, Lancs.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS



## NEWS BRIEFS

### 'AMATU'L-BAHÁ RÚHÍYYIH KHÁNÚM CONTINUES HER FANTASTIC TRAVELS.

Following her very successful tour of Ethiopia, Ámatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánúm returned to Kenya to complete her tour of that country. Mrs. Violette Nakhjavani, who is accompanying Rúhíyyih Khánúm on her journey, said, "It is not possible to go into the details of a tour such as this when already, in a little over four months, we have visited more than sixty-three Bahá'í localities, driven 5,000 miles and flown all over Ethiopia. However, many of the highlights are of interest and their recounting may help fulfil the second reason Ámatu'l-Bahá undertakes these arduous journeys — to stimulate the friends, young and old, to take heart and arise to spread the message of Bahá'u'lláh, particularly among the villagers and illiterates in different parts of the world.

On November 27th we returned to Kenya to complete our tour of that country. Three days later Rúhíyyih Khánúm delivered a public talk in one of the halls of the University of Nairobi following the reception given in her honour by the National Spiritual Assembly and the Nairobi Local Spiritual Assembly at which distinguished non-Bahá'ís and friends were present.

December 3rd we returned to Kampala, almost four months to the day from our arrival in Africa in August. This is not the official tour of Uganda, and Rúhíyyih Khánúm has only met informally with the Kampala community, at the homes of the ever-hospitable Bahá'ís and attended several services at the Mother Temple of Africa. Ámatu'l-Bahá, however, has met with Hand of the Cause, Enoch Olinga and some of the members of the Continental Board of Counsellors, as well as members of the National Spiritual Assembly, and planned her next move, which will take us overland in the Land Rover through the Congo, Central African Republic, Chad, Gabon, Niger, Dahomey and Togo to Ghana. Counsellor Oloro Epyeru is accompanying us, at least as far as Fort Lamey in Chad. It is a long trek, a jump into the unknown, but we are confident that Bahá'u'lláh will watch over us and that as we go to serve His Cause, only that which He wishes can come to pass."

Ámatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánúm, accompanied by Mrs. Violette Nakhjavani and Mr. Oloro Epyeru, member of the Continental Board of Counsellors in Central and East Africa, embarked on her journey to Congo (Kinshasa), Central African Republic and Chad on January 1, 1970. In one of her recent reports, Ámatu'l-Bahá has said, "We left Kampala January 1st and crossed into the Congo on January 3rd where we stayed overnight in a place called Beni. From the day we left Beni until the day we arrived at Bangui (Central African Republic) we drove over fifteen hundred miles, seven full days' driving through the jungle. It was beautiful and wonderful but no-one who has not done it can conceive of the vast, never-ending spaces of the Congo in which there is NOTHING. Every now and then a mud village sprawls out along the road and then only the virgin bush again. The roads are a single track, often with a hump of grass growing down the middle for miles on end. Passenger cars are to be seen only in the 'big' towns, nothing but trucks and four-wheel drive vehicles can get over the roads in the wilderness...The Congo women are the most beautiful we have seen on this trip, very beautiful."

In Chad she met pioneers Adrienne and Dempsey Morgan and Bill Davis. Of Niger she wrote,

"When we arrived after three or four days on the road (we)... have to practically dig ourselves out of the dust, everything has to be beaten, brushed and washed, and it takes us hours to do it. Our insides are also coated with dust and that takes days to get out of our lungs and then we leave and start the whole thing all over..."

Yesterday at 11a.m. we were received by the President at his residence (it was Sunday) and had a 20 minute interview...and he is an extremely nice man, much esteemed in that part of the world."

Several months after the visits described above, when she was in Canada, the following words were used about her:—

"Rúhíyyih Khánúm's title 'Ámatu'l-Bahá'", the National Spiritual Assembly informed the friends, "means 'Maid-servant of God'. When we realise that she travelled 18,000 miles prior to her visit to Canada and that she will spend a year travelling to South America and in Africa before returning to her home in Haifa, we must surely agree that her title is most appropriate."

#### Alaska

A news bulletin, "Wind of Bahá'" is specially written for believers with a limited reading vocabulary; it is very well received and here is an excerpt:

"Everyone talked about what the Indians do for the Bahá'í Faith. They remembered that 'Abdu'l-Bahá, the Servant of God, called upon the Indian and Eskimo people to give light to the world. No one else is telling us, but God is calling us. Many Indians are working hard. They are going to Bahá'í Feasts and meetings. They are listening with their ears and their hearts and then telling other people about the love of Bahá'u'lláh for all men and His plan for love and peace..."

#### Argentina

After a teaching conference which followed the La Paz Continental Conference a group of people left to reach several large concentrations of Toba Indians, a tribe not yet contacted. This group included a local believer aged seventy-five and a boy aged nine with his mother. Twenty new localities were opened and in one week the total membership of Argentina was doubled.

#### Australia

Last January, Australia held its first National Teaching Conference. Two newly enrolled aborigines were amongst the 131 believers who attended from Australia, Solomon and New Hebrides Islands. There were six pioneer and four travel teaching offers.

#### Belize

A most successful series of activities to support United Nations was carried out by the National Proclamation Committee. They included a poster contest in secondary schools with a camera and air trip as prizes; a variety show in the largest theatre with much publicity giving the Bahá'ís credit for the event; whilst a soloist sang 'People who need People' full screen slides of Bahá'í world gatherings were shown. The show's proceeds went to UNICEF Children's Fund and the Minister of Education arranged for pictures to be forwarded to the U.N. to show what the Bahá'ís were doing; good radio and press publicity was obtained.

#### Botswana

Now has its own Newsletter, half in English and half in Tswana. The youth in this country are particularly active and following a National Youth School they visited some local villages. Altogether nine villages witnessed meetings when a total of 683 people heard of the Faith. Two exciting cables were received in September, 1970.

"First Shua Bushwoman embraced Faith Bahá'u'lláh today leaves to teach her people in the desert."

"First of Kgalagadi people desert nation akin Tswana accept Bahá'u'lláh."

#### Brazil

It is believed that mass teaching has started amongst the 'Camposinos' in Fortaleza. Forty-one new believers were enrolled by four teams of teachers on a Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Other work was proceeding apace in different parts of Brazil and on September 12, when the National Assembly was in session, a telephone call advised them that the total Bahá'í membership of Brazil had almost doubled since Riđván.

#### Canada

News of tremendous victories come from all parts of the country. Eskimos expected to enter 'by troops'.

So great was the success in the Yukon that when a drive was made to find thirty-nine new believers to achieve their goal, a total of sixty-eight were enrolled. The July/August Canadian Bahá'í News with its entirely 'new look' dedicated its first one and a half pages to the visit of Ámatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánúm, and a whole page, 17" x 11", to new declarations. The September issue contains a half page chart which shows in an unusual way the relationship of the many national committees to each other and to the National Spiritual Assembly.

#### Cocos Island

Nine Year Plan goal achieved by settlement of Australian pioneer, Keith Brown.

#### Colombia

Thirty-five native travelling teachers opened twenty-four new localities and enrolled 1500 new believers.

#### Congo (Kinshasa)

After a few Pygmies had accepted the Faith at an Institute, a group of Bahá'ís left for some of the Pygmy villages, singing hymns to Bahá'u'lláh as they went. As they passed through one village on the way the Chief said, "You go to see the Pygmies who live beyond my territory to tell them good news, why don't you come to me?" They did.

**Cook Island**

Although over fifty years of age, Mr. Peni Tut'ila had never left Tonga until he set out on a travel teaching trip to Cook Islands.

**Dominican Republic**

A young mother of three children is the first woman to be elected Chairman of a Local Spiritual Assembly. She is Mrs. Paulino of San Francisco de Macoris.

**Ecuador**

A woman of 100 years old recently accepted the Faith in a massive teaching campaign which opened many new areas, won recruits from a new tribe and enrolled over 1000 new believers.

**Finland**

Extensive publicity given to Linda Marshall's visit was followed by a Public Information Day on the Faith. It began at 10 a.m. and lasted until 5 p.m. So many guests came that at times people had to wait at the door for a seat. Some visitors waited all day, listening from morning to evening.

**Guatemala**

About 1000 people are receiving the Bahá'í Correspondence Course.

**Germany**

Early this year sixty-two newspapers mentioned the Faith in sixty-nine articles during a two-month period. This compares with ninety articles during the whole of the preceding year. With a reading public of about seven million it is possible that during those two months more than 10% of the population could have read of the Faith.

**India**

So much news comes from India, it is even impossible to give the headlines but of particular note was a 'Civic Address' given by the Municipal Council of Kanakapura to the National Spiritual Assembly when it met in Bangalore. This address remarks on the coming of the Faith to that area, praises the Teachings, calls it a 'noble Faith' and refers to the goal of uniting mankind. It continues, "...We, the Municipal Council, and the people of Kanakapura, request the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of India to enlighten us further as to how we could co-operate in achieving this noble goal..." The magazine, 'Goa Today' recently featured on its cover three Bahá'í young ladies, one a medical student and the others science students. An article dealt most favourably with the Faith and concluded: "If the people of Goa are not disposed to follow the Bahá'í Faith, they must at least give these girls a hearing."

**Italy**

Nine declarations at the Summer School, the enrolment of the first San Marino believer, great publicity by Dizzie Gillespie in Palermo, and proclamation of the Faith by a Uruguayan musician who became a Bahá'í in Italy all indicate a fine upsurge in the teaching spirit in this country.

**Japan**

After a world tour, pioneer Philip Marangella returned to Japan and the largest English language newspaper featured an excellent story of the tour. It was the first time in more than fifteen years that the Faith has obtained news space.

**Laos**

From the war-stricken province of Muon Phine comes the news of enthusiastic reception of the Faith, particularly through visual aids.

**Philippines**

Holy Days recognised at the Mindano State University and the first legal Bahá'í Marriage with a large amount of publicity are amongst the exciting news items from these islands.

**Seychelles**

A 'flash-back' to the Congress in 1963 was made when a selection from the talk given by Hand of the Cause Bill Sears in the Albert Hall was given over the radio during a fifteen minute broadcast for World Religion Day. Wide-spread interest was aroused as a result of this broadcast.

**Spain**

A difficult and important goal was achieved by the declaration of a Gypsy lady, Mrs. Maria Camacho Martinez.

**United States**

The wonderful teaching news continues to flow in; it is estimated that sometimes as many as one thousand new Bahá'ís enroll in a month. Many are youth and represent a wide cross-section of the people.



*Hooman Momen with some friends during his recent South American trip.*

**TWO IMPORTANT BRITISH EVENTS****Youth Winter School**

Youth Hostel, Clifton, York. 21st to 27th December.

There are still vacancies for this stimulating annual occasion. Counsellor Betty Reed will be present for part of the School. A special exhibition project may also be associated with the Youth activities. Book now from

Hazel Baller  
58 Coval Lane,  
Chelmsford, Essex.

**Teaching Conference**

Midland Hotel, Birmingham, 2-3 January, 1971.

This Conference will exert the greatest influence on our work and should give the stimulation and inspiration so essential for the final years of the Plan. Last year set a particularly high standard; can this year possibly surpass it? Not only your attendance but your new ideas expressed during the consultation periods are of the utmost importance. Counsellor Anneliese Bopp will be conducting the special session for the European Board of Counsellors.

Book now directly to the Midland Hotel, New Street, Birmingham 2 mention 'Bahá'í Conference' for specially reduced rates.

**NEW NATIONAL COMMITTEE FORMED**

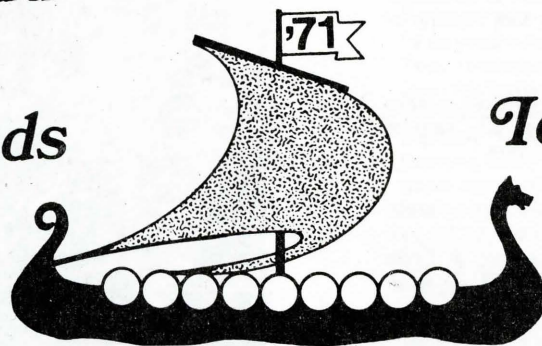
A new responsibility to contact African students and visitors in these Islands, with 'the purpose of introducing the Faith to them, so that when they return to their home countries they would be at least knowledgeable about the Faith and hopefully favourably towards it, if not already converted to it...' has been given to us by the Universal House of Justice.

To the United States many years ago, the Guardian wrote,

"He hopes that wherever it is possible the believers will make every effort to contact African students and visitors, and to show them kindness and hospitality. This may not only lead to the conversion of some while in America, but will also make friends for the Faith in Africa".

To study this question, make recommendations, and to advise assemblies and groups on what might be done in this field, a new committee has been established, centred on the Cambridge area.

*Komdu  
til  
Islands*



*Come  
to  
Iceland*

Encircled by the Gulf Stream which moderates its temperature, Iceland is a delightful place to visit in September.

Icelanders speak some English, Scandinavian, or German. The people are predominantly of Norse origin, but there is an admixture of Celtic and British blood. It was in 1000 A.D. that this nation adopted the Christian faith.

Iceland has long green valleys, high plateaux separated by ice-capped ranges of volcanic formations, spouting geysers and hot springs in which one can bathe in the open even in mid-winter, beautiful lakes, thundering waterfalls, winding rivers and fertile meadows. There are thousands upon thousands of seabirds nesting on the ledges of the towering cliffs. Two hundred and twenty-seven different species of birds have been identified in Iceland. In November, 1963 a 50-60 metre high column composed of ashes and smoke suddenly rose from the surface of the sea. A mighty volcanic eruption had begun in the ocean. Thus emerged the new island — given the name of Surtsey.

Iceland is one of the most volcanic countries in the world. In 930 the Althing (Parliament) was founded, and in 1918 Iceland was recognised as a sovereign state in a personal union with the Danish king, and in 1944 it became an independent union Republic. Iceland's famous hot springs are used to heat green houses in which vegetables, fruit and flowers are grown. They also heat some public buildings. Entire towns are heated in this way, and since 1943 most of Reykjavik has been heated by hot water from the springs.

The National Spiritual Assembly of Canada is responsible for the planning of a North Atlantic Conference to take place in the city of Reykjavik, Iceland, from September 2nd to the 5th, 1971. This is one of eight such conferences called for by the Universal House of Justice as part of the goals of the Nine Year Plan.

"...these...conferences...will doubtless demonstrate yet again the spirit of joy which pervades such gatherings of the friends and will reinforce them in their determination to seize whatever means and opportunities they may find to raise the divine call...These conferences, focal points of the love and prayers of the friends everywhere, magnets to attract the spiritual powers which alone can confirm their work, will, it is confidently hoped, be potent sources of unity, spiritual enthusiasm, and realistic planning."

*Universal House of Justice*

#### CAN YOU GO?

You can fly from London (11 a.m. 1 Sept. or 12.35., 2 Sept.)

You can fly from Glasgow (17.15, 1 Sept.)

1 hour 45 minutes flight; 8 optional excursions from Reykjavik. There is even a chance to visit Greenland.

Prices range from £55 in private houses to £91.10 in the best hotel and depending upon the number of nights, single room facilities are extra. The tour returns to Glasgow on Sept. 8th or London on the 7th or 8th.

Further details will be given to those booking. You can NOT expect to hitch hike there or even get accommodation if you have not booked; accommodation is just not available.

Book now to ensure a place. Indicate which days you wish to go and come back. Indicate which airport you wish to use. Indicate whether you prefer private accommodation, 2nd class hotel (City) or 1st class (Holt or Saga Hotels).

## PLANNING YOUR SUMMER HOLIDAYS?

### A wide range to select from

All over Britain people are planning their summer holidays now. Some have to leave their decision until later and their choice of place is restricted by the availability of accommodation. This year some waited too long and could not get in where they wanted; this year they will book early for next year. For all those who want to combine wonderful holiday surroundings with exciting Bahá'í companionship, there is today a very wide range to choose from.

### Iceland (1st — 8th September)

Nearly half of the available places for the Conference to be held in this magnificent setting have already been booked and the Canadian and American friends are seeking everything that is left.

### Ireland (17th — 31st July)

The third year of this Summer School in Co. Dublin promises to be as joyous and inspiring as ever.

### Scotland (31st July — 14th August)

This really is news. For the first time we are to have a Summer School in Scotland. The goal town of Dundee will be the venue and all those who have grown to love Dalston will this year have a chance instead to travel a little further and join the Scottish friends in this historic 'first'.

### Wales (24th July — 7th August)

The long tradition of lovely Welsh seaside Summer Schools will this year be continued in Aberystwyth. Right in the holiday season this well-known resort and goal town will, for the first time, welcome a great influx of Bahá'í visitors.

### Cyprus, Malta, Gibraltar, Majorca and all (Any time)

If you are searching for the sun and the Icelandic, Irish, Scottish or Welsh dates are not convenient and you plan a more conventional holiday in any of these Mediterranean Islands, you can, through consultation with the Overseas Goals Committee, arrange to meet the Bahá'ís there. This will give them tremendous encouragement, for even the casual visitor with news and greetings from Britain is a great joy to the Friends.

### WHY THE HURRY?

The accommodation in Iceland is limited, there can be no last minute bookings, the attractions are great and many are eager to go.

This is the first year we have Summer Schools in Ireland, Scotland and Wales with dates which overlap. This will give an assessment of the British Bahá'í Community's ability to sustain three such schools and early bookings will be called for. The programme committee can then plan its sessions with the availability of speakers and discussion leaders in mind.

It should be noted that the only possible new places in England for a Summer School had costs which would be far too high.

Please book for Iceland and put the other dates in your diary now.



## THE ONWARD MARCH OF THE FAITH IN BRITAIN

Since the massive list of new believers published in the July/August issue of the 'Journal', eighty-one declarations have been accepted from the home front and sixteen youth have claimed their voting rights. This demonstrates an upsurge in the local teaching effort and is an indication that the personal goals campaign is getting under way. Nothing will bring greater confirmation than our universal participation in 'praying, travelling and searching'. It also confirms the words of the Universal House of Justice that,

".....in the worsening world situation...a greater and greater number of thoughtful men and women are recognising...the evidences of Divine chastisement and...are becoming increasingly receptive to his Word....."

We warmly welcome to the Community the following new believers, and to full participation in all its activities the youth who have claimed their voting rights.

### ENGLAND – Youth

Leva Ma'ani (Miss) – Ipswich  
Brenda Lipscombe (Miss) – Shrewsbury  
Michael Redworth – Shrewsbury  
Donald Love – Shrewsbury  
Nicky Strudwick (Miss) – Portsmouth  
Naddim Golmohamad – Stafford

Linda Shanks (Miss) – Burnopfield  
John Griffin – Kirkby  
Lynette Woodford (Miss) – Burnley  
Allison Shaw (Miss) – Blackpool  
Jean Mercer (Miss) – Birmingham  
Christine Payne (Miss) – Birmingham

Evelyn Chivers (Miss) – Birmingham  
Azhar Shah – Birmingham  
Farshad Tahzib – Brighton  
Jamea Ayoub (Miss) – Barnet  
Ramond Munro – Kensington & U.S.A.

### Adults

Roger Burton – Carlisle  
Ronald Collins – Bristol  
Suzanne Collins (Mrs.) – Bristol  
Charles Roberts – Eccles  
Linda Roberts (Mrs.) – Eccles  
Lynn Thistleton (Mrs.) – Eccles  
Doris Adams (Mrs.) – Portsmouth  
Salina Swinton (Mrs.) – Brent  
Michael Pattar – Brighton  
Russell Alan Williams – Fareham  
Edith Hiscock (Mrs.) – Wimborne  
Sybil Mullett (Mrs.) – Cambridge  
William Barry – Ryde, I. of Wight  
Susan Loverock (Mrs.) – Birmingham  
Kathleen Rushton (Mrs.) – Burnley

Helm Spencer – Burnley  
Clara Spencer (Mrs.) – Burnley  
Thomas MacKenzie – Burnley  
Dennis C. Wild – Burnley  
Brian Harris – Salisbury  
Leila Thomas (Mrs.) – Salisbury  
Margery Addison (Mrs.) – Scarisbrick  
Ian Luscombe – Tillington  
Michael Lanchbery – Chadwell St. Mary  
David Rollings – Market Drayton  
Richard Crofts – Shrewsbury  
Gerald Wilson – Crook, C. Durham  
Sallie Pallett (Mrs.) – Leicester  
Jean Dixon – Kirkby  
Leonard McHugh – Kirkby

Robert Sarly – Camden  
Anne Cook (Miss) – Camden  
George Chelmick – Poole  
Edna Hamilton – Epsom  
Nyary North (Mrs.) – Kendal  
Joseph Dawson – Crew Green  
Thomas Holland – Bury  
Henry Horace Kane – Tadworth  
Leah M.M. Kane (Mrs.) – Tadworth  
Colin Hindmarsh – Belford  
Archibald Wilson – Rochdale  
Phylliss Wilson (Mrs.) – Rochdale  
William McColl – Lostwithiel  
Mildred Brownless (Mrs.) – Durham

### WALES – Youth

Julia Madgwick (Miss) – Aberystwyth

Christopher Freeman – Cefn Caeau

### Adults

Elizabeth Griffiths (Mrs.) – Aberystwyth

Margaret Morgan (Mrs.) – Aberystwyth

### IRELAND – Youth

Robert Cogo-Fawcett – Portrush, Antrim

Martin McCulloch – Limerick

### Adults

Joseph Watson – Belfast  
Margaret Nelson (Miss) – Belfast  
Frederick Ackerman – Londonderry

Irene Ackerman (Mrs.) – Londonderry  
Simeon Vine (Miss) – Dublin

Hedley Beatty – Hillsborough  
Patrick Dawson – Bray

### SCOTLAND – Youth

Michael Coleman – Edinburgh

Jane Abbott (Miss) – Motherwell

### Adults

Catherine Ross (Mrs.) – Tobermory, Mull  
Norman Mackenzie – Aberdeen

Michael Stagg – Pitlochry  
Mary Stagg (Mrs.) – Pitlochry

### YOUTH CLAIMING THEIR VOTING RIGHTS

Elisabeth Fosbrooke (Mrs.) – Poole  
Linda Turbine (Miss) – Salford  
Bahiyeh Barnett (Mrs.) – London SE4  
Daryoush Master – Norwich  
James Shields – H.M.S. Ships

Christine Lee (Mrs.) – Liverpool  
Chohre Ashraf (Miss) – Leeds  
Alison Wortley – Dun Laoghaire  
Appasamy Parathian (Mrs.) – Lincoln  
June Glover (Miss) – Guildford

Shadram Yazdani (Miss) – Poole  
Anne Shepherd – Aberdeen  
Derek Redfern – Belfast  
Rita Green (Miss) – Barnoldswick  
Farzad Taheri – Brighton

### CYPRUS

Erdogan Yucel – Famagusta

Djemal Mehmet – Famagusta

## حقوق الله

Mr Salim Nounou, appointed by the Universal House of Justice as Assistant Huquq Trustee for Europe and Africa, has asked that the Persian friends in Great Britain be informed that Mr. John Long, 2 South Street, Oakham, Rutland, has opened on behalf of Mr. Nounou, an account for Huquq'u'llah contributions.

Persian friends wishing to contribute to the Huquq'u'llah Fund should send their contributions to Mr. Long, which will be receipted by Mr. Nounou.

## HAVE YOU A TRUE STORY?

.....The Jerusalem Post reported that a man in Haifa saw a taxi driver having difficulties with a party of strangers. The driver asked for help in English but said they must all be deaf because all they keep saying to him is: 'Shrein'. They were obviously Bahá'í pilgrims but 'shrein' is Yiddish for 'shout'.

.....A Bahá'í went to the Leeds railway station and asked for a cheap week-end ticket to Leicester; he was going to speak to the public meeting there. It took the man at the window some time to read up his book of fares and make out a paper travel voucher. When asked why no ticket the reply was, "Nobody ever goes to Leicester from Leeds for a week-end."

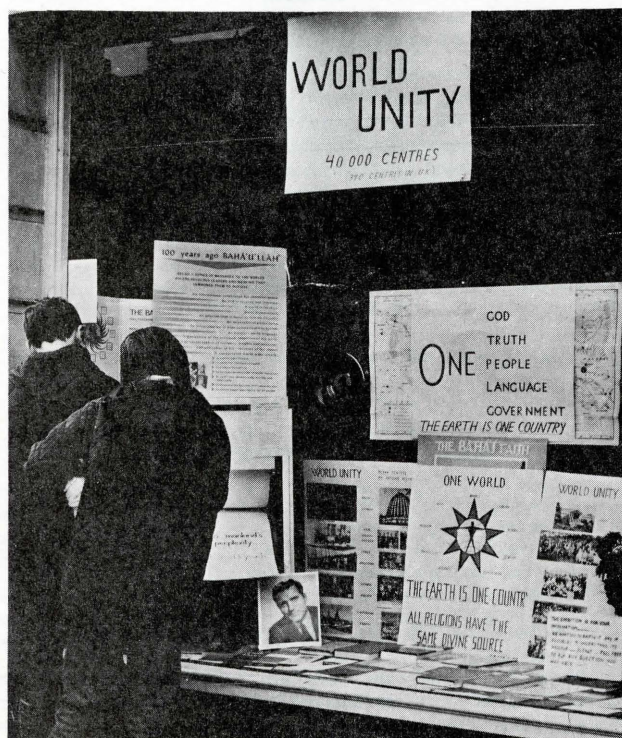
## NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITIES

**AYLESBURY.** The Buckinghamshire Herald carried a very good account of a successful public meeting in October at which Philip Hinton spoke. For the celebration of the Birth of the Báb, the community entertained twenty-one members of staff of a local school, including the headmaster, to a Persian supper, preceded by a talk about Bahá'í Holy Days. A member of our community who is a student at King's College, London, distributed 600 pamphlets on the Faith with an invitation to attend an introductory meeting at which a Bahá'í Society was formed.

**BARNET.** This community carried out a survey last May with three objectives in mind:— to spread the name of the Faith; to determine the effectiveness of advertising in local papers; to determine the proportion of people who have heard of the Faith and to acquire useful information for future teaching projects. A questionnaire was prepared and a team of eleven interviewers positioned themselves in six of the main shopping areas of the borough. Altogether 716 people were interviewed and of these 17.5% had heard of the Bahá'í Faith. It was found that the public did not mind being approached and that there is no need to have trained interviewers.

**BATH.** Seventy Bahá'ís and their friends attended the weekend school held on October 31/November 1. The school included talks on the Covenant, Progressive Revelation and the Claims of Bahá'u'lláh, together with a slide show and a public meeting. We are particularly grateful to Edgar Boyett, who spoke at the public meeting, as he gave a most enlightening talk and had to take over at the last moment. The school was most successful and we all took away that spirit of love and unity which helps us to teach the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh.

**BRISTOL.** One of the believers had the misfortune to be ill and while in hospital organised two well attended meetings on the Faith, featuring the slide show 'Carmel, the Mountain of God'. One of his fellow-patients was so excited that he declared soon afterwards and his wife's declaration followed soon afterwards. Bahá'í books were also presented to members of the medical staff. A Bahá'í student at a Church of England teacher training college wanted to organise a World Religion Day meeting as part of the regular student prayers. As a result of this he has been asked to prepare a series of readings each term. The same student was asked to show slides of a holiday which resulted in a half-hour discussion of the Faith. This same set of slides had a similar result at a travel club. Among other activities Bristol has recently held a deepening school entirely in Persian for the benefit of the Iranian friends which was a great success. The Bristol Bahá'ís have subdivided their large city into forty-four community areas, following the Council boundaries, and plan to hold a meeting in each one. Finally, when they go to meetings, the Bristol Bahá'ís take along their own contacts — just in case there aren't any at the meeting!



Shop-window display in Shrewsbury

**CAMBRIDGE** have recently had two declarations, the outward manifestation of a continuous stirring of enthusiasm for the Faith. The Local Assembly has adopted a plan to visit a nearby goal town once a week. The Bahá'í Society at the University has had two meetings and will be holding a Proclamation weekend on 28/29 November. The community wishes to thank the Cardell family for the Sunday picnics which they organise during the summer, which not only bring together the Bahá'ís of the region, but provide a useful opportunity to bring together contacts.

**LEICESTER** were recently asked by the religious instruction teacher of a local teacher training college if a class of students might be brought to see the centre and hear about the Faith. Seventeen students, both men and women, ranging in age from teens to middle age, spent over an hour at the centre and asked many and varied questions. When they left, the Leicester Centre pamphlet shelves were bare!

**LINCOLN** sends out a Mayday call...they have eight Bahá'ís and have set themselves a goal of nineteen by Riqdán...a public meeting is arranged for 7.30 p.m. on Saturday 9 January, the week after Teaching Conference. Arrangements have been made with the local youth hostel for beds at six shillings a head if at least twenty Bahá'ís want accommodation. If you would like to attend, and require this accommodation, please write to Mrs. Rose Alexander, 1 Woodfield Avenue, Birchwood, Lincoln. The community would also be very glad for any ideas or help you can offer them.

**ST. AUSTELL with FOWEY** recently held a very successful weekend school at which five adult enquirers were present. Everyone played their part and the children contributed to the programme in a delightful way. Friends came from all over Devon and Cornwall as well as Chippenham and Bath and it is hoped that as a result of this school a family may move to St. Austell.

**SHREWSBURY.** Recent declarations have brought the community up to nine within the civic limits, with four Bahá'ís outside the boundary. Alas, one of the friends within the city limits will have to leave before Riqdán, leaving our numbers at eight. The Shrewsbury community is deeply grateful to Dr. and Mrs. Ta'eed and their family for their unflinching efforts in the service of the Cause. A meeting organised in Wolverhampton in November was attended by forty youth and as a result of intensive teaching work the Faith must now be known to over a thousand students of the college where the meeting was held.

**SWANSEA.** During the summer months, Swansea has been engaged in a number of supporting ventures. The month of May saw us in the goal town of Llanelli with three firesides a week in an empty shop hired for an exhibition. This was followed by a couple of weeks in a Swansea shop, which our whole stock of leaflets disappeared! In August we had the Welsh National Eisteddfod, where we had the pleasure of a declaration from a Llanelli boy. Three Persian boys visited Swansea for a week after Harlech Summer School and held a successful fireside in Llanelli, after spending the day touring libraries, bookshops, record shops and so on, asking for Bahá'í literature and records.

**WANDSWORTH.** An inter-faith service was held on United Nations Sunday at the charming old church of St. Mary the Virgin in Putney, at which the main address was given by the Rt. Hon. David Ennals and local Church of England, Catholic and Baptist officials led the congregation in readings and prayers from their individual doctrines. The chairman of the local United Nations Branch, Eruch Munsiff, read a selection from the writings of Bahá'u'lláh. About twenty-four Bahá'ís from the London area attended this service and formed about half of the small congregation, which was also attended by Mr. Hugh Jenkins, M.P. The Wandsworth Assembly was most grateful for this support which enabled them to draw the attention of the M.P. and other officials to the active interest of the Bahá'ís in the work of the United Nations.

The Wandsworth Bahá'í Ball was held again this year and was attended by Bahá'ís and their friends from all over the country. The ball was opened with the reading of a prayer after which the chairman of the Wandsworth Assembly welcomed the Mayor Mayoress, Lady Helen Nutting and Mr. and Mrs. Pat Green. After the Mayor had replied, Lady Nutting presented to him a copy of 'Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era' and Najla Baghdadi presented a bouquet of flowers to the Mayoress. An ample supply of buffet food was served all evening with coffee, and the bar was open for the sale of soft drinks.



Shop-window display in Ryde, Isle of Wight.

**ISLE OF WIGHT.** The number of Bahá'ís in Ryde has been brought to three by the declaration of the first islander and the pioneering move of Dorothy Brown. A shop window display in the main street has attracted great attention and a weekend school was held in early November. The school was supported by about seventy of the friends, some from as far away as Nottingham, and Counsellor Betty Reed and Board Member David Lewis and his wife were present. Both these events have given opportunities to make contact with new enquirers and we are most grateful to all the friends who helped us by manning our display and coming to our school.

**THE DAWN HAS COME**

Stand up, O Man! Why lie you there asleep?  
 The Dawn has come and yet you tarry still  
 Upon your nightmare couch, your eyes fast shut,  
 And whilst you twist and toss the Horsemen pound  
 Across your dreams, rampaging through the world,  
 Which holds its breath in fear of what may come.  
 The dreaded vision of the mushroom cloud  
 Shrouds over all, while minds dart to and fro  
 Like frantic ants, to find the saving path,  
 Yet finding none, decide there's none to find,  
 So, futureless, they busily enjoy  
 The myriad marvels of this modern age.

Bestir yourself, O Man! Behold the Light,  
 The living, pulsing, radiant Light of Spring  
 That pours its healing strength upon mankind  
 Before the sickness gains a mortal hold.  
 Unseal your eyes and cast aside your chains;  
 See where, in every land, the highest peaks  
 Reflect the rising glory of the Sun,  
 Whilst yet the valleys lie in veils of mist.  
 Warmth rides upon the rays that now descend  
 to melt the frozen wasteland round your Soul.  
 Did you but search you'd find the vital Truth  
 That brings the promise of the coming Day.

Evelyn Jerrard  
 (Spring 1970)

**FIRESIDES, PUBLIC MEETINGS AND STUDY CLASSES**

**CORRECTIONS TO LISTS PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED**

<b>LEICESTER</b> <b>NOTTINGHAM</b>	Baha'i Centre, 248 London Road, LE2 1RJ Mr. and Mrs. E. Gregory, 2 Westmoreland Court, Ebury Road	Firesides Firesides Study Classes	Wednesdays 7.30 p.m. First and third Thursdays Second and fourth Thursdays
<b>NEW LIST</b>			
<b>AYLESBURY</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Kouchekezadeh, 2 Hastoe Park (84066)	Firesides	Wednesday 8 p.m.
<b>BANGOR, North Wales</b>	Mr. and Mrs. K. Beint, 69 Caernarvon Road	Firesides	Tuesday 7.30 p.m.
<b>BRIGHTON</b>	Tahzib Family, 107 Stanford Avenue (0273-516743)	Firesides	Wednesdays 8 p.m.
<b>CORK</b>	Please telephone 52726 for details	Firesides	Fridays
<b>DUBLIN</b>	Haziratu'l-Quds, 41 Morehampton Road, 4 (683150) Mr. Z. Whitehead, 27 Fitzwilliam Square (60678) Please telephone for details (909769)	Firesides Firesides Public Meetings	Alt. Wednesdays 8 p.m. Sundays 8 p.m. Second Wednesdays 8 p.m.
<b>DUN LOGHAIRE</b>	Please telephone for details (809400)	Firesides	Various times
<b>EPSOM</b>	Mr. and Mrs. R. Humphrey, 27 Dirdene Gardens (23793)	Firesides	Fridays 8 p.m.
<b>KIRKBY</b>	72 Bigdale Drive, Northwood	Firesides	Mondays
<b>LIMERICK</b>	Miss L. Gibson, 6 Alphonsus Terrace (46270) Mr and Mrs. Halliday, 73 College Park, Corbally.	Firesides Firesides Study Classes	Tuesdays 8 p.m. Wednesdays 7 p.m.
<b>LONDON BOROUGH</b> <b>of EALING</b>	Mrs. Khoshbrin, 3a Leopold Road, W5 (992-7132)	Firesides	Tuesdays 8 p.m.
<b>PORTSMOUTH</b>	Mr. and Mrs. E. Cameron, 24 Deena Close, Acton W3 (992-1409) 58 St. Augustine Road, Southsea 45 Kirby Road, N/End, Portsmouth Mrs. Anvar, 45 Kirby Road.	Firesides Firesides Firesides Youth Meetings Study Classes	Fridays 8 p.m. Sundays 3.30 p.m. Tuesdays 7.30 p.m. Second and fourth Tuesdays
<b>RICHMOND</b>	30 Castelnau, Barnes, SW13 (748-7548 or 894-7764)	Firesides	Mondays 8 p.m.
<b>SOUTHPORT</b>	41 Pitt Street 16 Turning Lane, Scarisbrick	Firesides Firesides	Fridays 8 p.m. Sundays 8 p.m.
<b>STRETFORD</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Varjevandi, 52 Cornbrook Street, Old Trafford	Firesides	Second Mondays
	Mrs. Fleming, 23 Coniston Road	Firesides	Fourth Mondays
<b>SWANSEA</b>	Mr. and Mrs. Neal Evans, 2 Craiglwyd Road, Cockett Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Morse, 33 Pentrepoeth Road, Morriston	Firesides Firesides Study Classes/ Firesides	Saturdays Tuesdays
<b>SWINTON</b>	Mrs. P. Senior, 15 Houghton Lane (Please telephone 794-2389 prior to visit)	Firesides	First Mondays
<b>ISLE OF WIGHT</b>	Miss Kitty Glover, 7 St. Mary's Close, Ryde Mrs. Marion Klyne, 'Verwood', Niton Undercliffe, Niton. Mrs. Dorothy Brown, 'Fuchsia Cottage', 3 Market Street, Ryde	Firesides Firesides Firesides Firesides	Wednesdays 3 p.m. Thursdays 8 p.m. Fridays 8 p.m.

### MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS BY DEED OF COVENANT

A deed of covenant is a promise to pay a fixed amount annually for a period in excess of six years and such deeds are therefore normally for a seven year period.

Because the National Spiritual Assembly is registered as a charitable organisation it is not liable to tax. Any member of the Bahá'í community who pays income tax at the standard rate, which is at present 8/3d in the £ (to be altered to 7/9d on 5 April 1971), can greatly help the National Fund if they will make their donations under deed of covenant because, as a charitable body, the National Assembly is able to recover the tax you have paid from the Inland Revenue.

Thus, for each £1 of taxable income, you actually receive only 11/9d, the Inland Revenue having collected 8/3d through P.A.Y.E. or by some other form of deduction. However, Income Tax does not have to be paid on sums donated under covenant to an approved charity, so it is this 8/3d you have already paid in tax which is collected back from the Inland Revenue, for each 11/9d you give.

The following are some examples:—

If you donate to the National Fund	The National Assembly gets this amount EXTRA from the Inland Revenue	Thus the TOTAL received by the National Assembly is
£ 1 per year	14 0 per year	£ 1 14 0 per year
£ 3 per year	£ 2 2 1 per year	£ 5 2 1 per year
£ 5 per year	£ 3 10 2 per year	£ 8 10 2 per year
£10 per year	£ 7 0 4 per year	£17 0 4 per year
£ 1 per month	£ 7 11 10 per year	£19 11 10 per year
£ 2 per month	£15 3 8 per year	£39 3 8 per year

As you will see, this adds 70% to the amount you have actually paid out and, if widely adopted by the Friends, could add hundreds of pounds to the income of the National Fund, without their actually contributing any more money at all!

#### THIS TYPE OF COVENANT WE CALL 'A' TYPE COVENANT

If you are a regular contributor to your Local Fund (Assembly or registered Group) it is possible for the National Assembly to recover the tax on this also, if you will covenant for it. The National Assembly will undertake to transfer the amount fixed by you to your Local Fund while the National Fund benefits by the tax recovered each year, thus:—

If you donate for your Local Fund	The National Fund would receive WITHOUT ANY EXTRA PAYMENT BY YOU	Thus together they receive
1/- per week	£1 16 4 per year	£ 4 8 4 per year
2/- per week	£3 12 8 per year	£ 8 16 8 per year
5/- per month	£2 2 1 per year	£ 5 2 1 per year
£1 per month	£8 8 6 per year	£20 8 6 per year

SEE HOW MUCH EXTRA INCOME CAN BE OBTAINED FOR THE NATIONAL FUND WITHOUT YOU PAYING OUT ANY EXTRA MONEY AT ALL!

#### 'B' TYPE COVENANT

This is another method of covenanting for those who want to give a contribution all at once instead of spreading it over seven years, and is a loan covenant. From a single donation the National Assembly recovers the tax over a period of not less than seven years. Tax is recovered each year on one-seventh of the sum donated under 'loan', thus:—

If you make a single payment of:	The National Fund can recover from the Inland Revenue	The Total received as a result is:
£ 10	£1 0 0 each year for 7 years	£ 16 6 6
£ 25	£2 5 2 each year for 7 years	£ 40 16 3
£100	£9 0 8 each year for 7 years	£163 4 8

Whichever type of covenant is considered a word of warning is necessary in that the National Assembly can only recover tax from the Inland Revenue if the friend making the covenant has paid tax to the full amount recovered from the covenant. If the friend has not paid tax to the full amount, the Inland Revenue would require the friend to make up the recovered tax, and covenants, therefore, are not recommended in such cases.

#### MAKING A COVENANT

It is quite simple to make a covenant. The National Assembly are fortunate to have the services of John Morphew, who is a Bahá'í and an accountant, to help with this work. If you are thinking of entering into a covenant, either write to John as follows:

Mr. John Morphew, 41 High Street, Hoddeston, Herts. or to

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

and tell us what you wish to do, whether it be an 'A' type covenant, or 'B' type, whether it be monthly, half-yearly, or annually, and we will make the arrangements for you.

If you write to the National Treasurer, she will advise you, and pass on your query to John. If you write to John directly, he will, if you have given him all the information he requires, draw up the necessary forms of covenant for you to sign.

Any friend who would like to receive a duplicated copy of this information please send a stamped addressed foolscap envelope to the National Treasurer.

In its message to the Bahá'ís of the world at Ridván 1967, the Universal House of Justice wrote:

"The House of Justice believes that the financial needs of the Cause should be met by universal participation in giving and urges National and Local Assemblies to pursue this goal with vigour and imagination, recalling to the Friends the plea of the beloved Guardian to every believer unhesitatingly, to place, each according to his circumstances, his share on the altar of Bahá'í sacrifice."

Some of the Friends may feel that they have so little to give that it is too small to send to the Fund. These donations are all the more precious because of the sacrifice involved! Besides, we are all in this together — and when we can joyfully report that there is indeed 'universal participation', that the gifts to Bahá'u'lláh are flowing in, in a great stream of love from young and old, rich and poor alike "each according to his circumstances", then the Faith will grow stronger than ever before because we are achieving another unity in the world.

Betty Good, National Treasurer, 8 Knowle Road,  
Stafford

**FROM THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY**

**EDITORIAL**

Beloved Friends,

"To diffuse the divine fragrances, to edify the souls of men, to promote learning, to improve the character of all men." These are some of the obligations which 'Abdu'l-Bahá in His Will and Testament has laid on the Hands of the Cause of God, and how well has our dear Hand John Robarts discharged them. Our hearts have been warmed by his loving presence, and his utter confidence in the power of prayer has kindled a flame in this Community which can and must become the blazing beacon of victory. We have his permission to quote from some of your letters to him:

"The Long Obligatory Prayer became part of our day. Suddenly people who had not been seen for some time as well as new friends were coming along every week...Already there was an excitement in the Community...We had a wonderful fireside with many contacts present, some of whom took part in the saying of "The Remover of Difficulties" 500 times (5 declarations followed in three days)...We ourselves are being changed and the effect of the power of these prayers is not only that it is bringing people to us, but we have become so alive that we are finding the waiting souls."

"We can never thank you enough for the great joy you brought to us — we feel truly blessed — when you left, we all met to say "The Remover of Difficulties" 500 times. J. was also with us and I think he has decided to declare."

"We shall meet regularly to say together "The Remover of Difficulties 500 times...In our hearts we all know that it is by turning to God in this way that we are guided to best serve the Faith in our own areas..."

"I just had to write and let you know we all started to use the Long Obligatory Prayer and some of us said "The Remover of Difficulties" 500 times. We were having an L.S.A. meeting to-night when some-body rang the door bell, came in and declared."

"Last Thursday, we met and said "The Remover of Difficulties" 500 times. What a wonderful feeling of unity we experienced and how we dedicated ourselves anew is somehow too difficult to express in words. We feel confident that we are entering a new phase and are better fitted to carry out our share of the Nine Year Plan."

"The Friends are alive with the wonderful spirit of love and prayer that you have refreshed within their hearts."

Dear Friends: Our beloved Hand has now left for Germany but we shall gladly forward any further letters you may wish to write to him. The flame he has kindled must not be allowed to die; it must be fanned into an all-consuming blaze through fervent daily prayer by every lover of Bahá'u'lláh. Nothing less can bring about the great increase in new believers and the movement of the pioneers which are needed to fill every gap on the Home Front and in the overseas goals.

Soon we shall meet in Birmingham for Teaching Conference which must this year complete the plans and generate the power for total victory. It has to be a truly great and exceptional gathering and the National Assembly urges everyone to attend if at all possible.

With deepest love  
NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

The National Spiritual Assembly requested the host assemblies to send in reports of the visits made of the Hand of the Cause, John Robarts. Even two weeks after the deadline date, these reports are not all available so the report will have to await the next issue. It will form part of a special feature on the many tours around the world of the Hands of the Cause.

Due to delays in receiving important material, the 'Journal' issues cannot be printed and sent out with any regularity. It is hoped that when an issue just misses a Nineteen Day Feast, secretaries will see that they reach the friends quickly and not await the next local gathering.

We have received few specific comments on the print and lay-out of the 'Journal' and so the present format will continue for the time being. Only about six comments were made about the little 'Question' item; a few readers regretted the absence of quotations from Bahá'í Writings; many welcome the photographs and the International News is widely appreciated. The Editorial Committee would be grateful for good photographs to illustrate news items; we will put in quotations to give weight to a theme or photograph and will not use them as 'fillers', particularly as we have plenty of material for this kind of item.

Alterations in numbers of Journals required by each community should be sent to the National Office, and not to the Editorial Committee, as envelopes for despatch are prepared in London.

**THE NEXT DEADLINE DATE IS 16th JANUARY 1971.**

Material should be sent to the Editor:  
**Mrs. Lois Hainsworth,**  
**'Treen'**  
**Allerton Park, Leeds LS7 4ND.**

**JAMAICANS IN BRITAIN**

The Universal House of Justice suggests that we may in some way make use of the news of the Caribbean Conference to be held in Kingston, Jamaica on 21st to 23rd May, 1971 to attract Jamaicans in Britain to the Faith, or at least give them some knowledge of it.

The newly formed committee for students and visitors to Britain, will look at this suggestion as an ad hoc addition to their terms of reference and may make some positive recommendations, but in the meantime Local Assemblies and Groups in the areas that have a West Indian population may well be giving thought to its possibilities.

**AUXILIARY BOARD MEMBERS RESIDENT IN THE BRITISH ISLES**

Propagation Board	Address	Territory of Operation
Mr. Richard Backwell	96 Knockleigh Drive, Greenisland, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland.	Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Scotland.
Mr. Ernest Gregory	4 Westmoreland Court, Ebury Road, Nottingham	Northern England, Scottish Islands, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Island of Man.
Mr. David Lewis	21 Hyde Close, Winchester, Hants.	Southern England, Wales, Channel Islands, Isle of Wight.
<b>Protection Board</b>		
Mrs. Joan Gregory	3 Westmoreland Court, Ebury Road, Nottingham	Northern England, Scotland, Scottish Islands, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Isle of Man.
Mrs. Mary Kouckezadeh	2 Hastoe Park, Aylesvury, Bucks.	Southern England, Wales, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland.

N.B. Division between Northern and Southern England is by a line crossing the country along the southern boundaries of Shropshire, Staffordshire, Leicestershire, Rutland and Lincolnshire.

## ENGLISH GOALS COMMITTEE

Dear Friends,

Many thanks for your letters regarding the activities in your particular Community. It does make it easier to give an up to date report when the news flows in regularly. This committee feels that they can sense the beginning of an upsurge in the spirit and effort in many of the goal towns and believe that this is directly connected with the recent visit of Hand of the Cause, John Robarts, when he drew to the attention of the Friends generally the importance of prayer. We have received reports from several communities that they have begun regular 'sessions' of 500 Remover of Difficulties and already results are beginning to show.

We would like to see a bigger response to our circular letter sent out in August, so far only fifteen replies have been received. Please consult together on the ways in which you can help the goal towns to achieve assembly status and let us have your deliberations so that we are able to formulate a plan of campaign.

With loving Bahá'í greetings.

English Goals Committee.

### AYLESBURY

There are now six adults and three youth in this community. They have reported that accommodation is available to anyone who is able to pioneer there and that there is a good College of Further Education in the town. Weekly firesides are held every Wednesday at 2 Hastoe Park, Aylesbury. The Friends hope to have a shop window display shortly, followed by a public meeting. Please support these activities as much as you can.

### BANGOR

The Friends in Bangor have been very active recently with a visit during the early part of October from Richard St. Barbe Baker and a One Day School on October 25th which was supported ably by Friends from Liverpool, Chester, Southport and Ellesmere Port, as well as visits from Communities as far apart as Shrewsbury and Pontypridd. They mention particularly the saying of 500 Remover of Difficulties at the One Day School and the arrival of Elizabeth Albrow at nearby Menai Bridge.

### CHELMSFORD

The recent wedding of Naysan Faizi received very good publicity in Chelmsford. Unfortunately they were not able to hold their planned Week-end School in September but hope to arrange another shortly. They have recently been joined by Miss S. Ziai, which brings the total number of adults in the Community to six.

### CARLISLE

We were delighted to receive the news of the declaration in Carlisle of Mr. Roger Burton which brings this community to eight adults. A One Day School was held in October and much support is received from local Communities and Friends.

### DERBY

A Public Meeting was held in Derby on the 1st November at which the Speaker was Philip Hainsworth. The Friends from Nottingham, Eccles, Sheffield and many other Communities supported this venture and it is hoped that it will enable the Faith to become established in this goal town which has only one Bahá'í residing and is very much in need of assistance.

### DURHAM

There are now six adults and two youth in Durham. Regular firesides are held and the Friends recently welcomed a visit from Geoffrey Bridle of Peterborough when there were twenty-five to thirty people present. This community receives regular support from the Friends in Newcastle.

### HEREFORD

This Community now consists of seven Bahá'ís, having recently been joined by Miss Natalie Msimang, and hold regular firesides on Wednesday evenings. Barney and Erica Leith have recently returned from Haifa and Barney has been asked to speak to a local organisation about their visit.

### KENDAL

This community continue actively to teach the faith in Kendal, as well as supporting other communities. They hold weekly firesides every Friday and once a month hold an advertised meeting with a visiting speaker. They also hold a meeting once a month inviting a non-Baha'i speaker to talk on their work. In October the speaker was, wait for it — His Worship the Mayor Of Kendal, speaking on the work of the Corporation. In December the visiting speaker will be speaking on 'The Teaching of Comparative Religion in Schools'. I think we could all take a leaf out of their book — how about if Friends, get busy!

### LINCOLN

This Community received good publicity from the recent wedding of Mr. B. Parattian. Firesides are held and a series of public meetings is being arranged over the next few months. An interesting point, a Bahá'í songbook belonging to one of the Bahá'í children is being used in the school.

### OAKHAM

Derek and Seema Cockshut are in the process of settling in Oakham and we hope that this community will soon grow in numbers. Their goal is to achieve Assembly status by Riqdán, 1972.

### RYDE

We are delighted to say that Dorothy Brown from Poole has now taken up residence in Ryde (bringing the total on the Island to three adults and one youth). They have recently held a most successful Week-end School which was preceded by a shop window display — a cutting from a local newspaper about the shop window and meeting was sent to the committee by a non-Bahá'í living outside Portsmouth! According to many reports received, a really enjoyable time was had by all who attended and many non-Bahá'ís were present.

### SHREWSBURY

This Community continues to teach the Faith consistently and several Public Meetings have been held recently. There have been more declarations in Shrewsbury and surrounding districts and the latest report is that they are now eight adults and four youth — but keep watching this page!

### ST. AUSTELL

This is another goal town where a most successful Week-end School was recently held with about thirty attending. There are quite a large number of children in St. Austell and regular children's classes are held which are well attended. It is hoped that a youth project can be arranged for next summer — how about planning to take your holidays in Cornwall next year? With the arrival of Mrs. Naomi Long there are now five adult Bahá'ís in St. Austell.

### ST. HELIER (Channel Islands)

At the moment there is no one actually residing in St. Helier itself although Beryl de Gruchy continues to try and teach the Faith from nearby Bagot. Please pray for this difficult goal and contact the Pioneer Committee if you feel able to assist in any way.

### GUERNSEY (Channel Islands)

Still remains unopened.

### ISLE OF MAN

We are delighted to report that Molly Hughes from Glasgow is now definitely in the process of settling in the Isle of Man. We wish her every success in her teaching work and know that she will appreciate the thoughts and prayers of all the Friends.

### LAPSED ASSEMBLIES:

#### EPSOM

A great deal has been happening in Epsom since the departure of the Bates family and there now appears no doubt that they will regain their Assembly status at Riqdán. Phillip and Ann Hinton are in the process of settling in their new home and we have just heard that there has been a declaration, which must bring the number to nine.

#### NORTHAMPTON

This Community is badly in need of pioneers, it appears that the numbers will be even further reduced shortly so please pray that the necessary pioneers will arise to help establish this Community once more.

#### PETERBOROUGH

A Deepening School was held recently in Peterborough and was well attended. Regular monthly public meetings are held and the Friends are asked to continue to support their efforts.

#### YORK

There are at present four Bahá'ís resident in York and they continue to be actively supported by the Assemblies of Bradford and Leeds with regular meetings and Firesides. The Youth will be holding their annual Winter School in York again over the Christmas holiday and certain activities are planned to coincide with their visit.

## REMOVAL OF VOTING RIGHTS

### HEAVY PENALTIES SPIRITUALLY

The removal of voting rights is an administrative sanction, it is not excommunication. A believer who has had his/her voting rights removed is still a Bahá'í. It is, however, a very serious step indeed. As well as being removed from the voting list, which means that the believer without voting rights is not eligible to be elected to a local assembly, or as a delegate to Convention, or to the National Assembly or the Universal House of Justice, the removal of voting rights brings other sanctions. Shoghi Effendi's guidance on this matter is to be found on p. 86 of "*Principles of Bahá'í Administration*", under the heading "Effect of Deprivation", and reads as follows:

"Regarding the matter of believers who have been deprived of their voting rights; just as no one should ever be deprived of his voting right lightly, it should, likewise, be realised that to be deprived of it is a grave matter, and involving heavy penalties spiritually. People who have been so deprived should not be permitted to attend any meetings involving the administration of the Cause, such as an election or a Nineteen Day Feast. They can attend the Nine Holy Days however; they should not be married by Bahá'í Law, no money should be accepted from them, they should not be given credentials (which imply a member of the community in good standing) nor should they be used officially as teachers or speakers."

### SOMETIMES NO ALTERNATIVE

The National Assembly is always reluctant to remove a believer's voting rights, and tries by every possible means, sometimes over periods of many months, to help the Friends to make the necessary adjustments in their lives so that the removal of voting rights is not necessary. When all efforts are to no avail, however, voting rights are removed. When a Law of Bahá'u'lláh is deliberately violated, such as the Law requiring parental consent to marriage and a Bahá'í marriage ceremony, then there is no alternative but to remove the believer's voting rights. The National Assembly asks everyone carefully to note all this, especially the heavy spiritual penalties involved, for a believer without voting rights is deprived of playing a full part in Bahá'í Community life, and his/her services to the Faith are very much restricted. Voting rights can be restored whenever the believer has corrected that action which was the cause of their removal, and the National Assembly always welcomes the opportunity to restore a believer's voting rights.

### YOUTH NEWS

The National Youth Committee is delighted to announce the formation of the first Irish Youth Committee, which will act as an arm of the National Youth Committee. We are sure that this new committee will prove invaluable in the Proclamation of the Faith in Ireland.

The Youth Winter School will be held again this year at York, from 20 to 28 December. Any youth who has been to a large gathering such as a winter school will know that the atmosphere is electric, and leaves everyone with renewed enthusiasm to do something for the Faith. It is with this in mind that the National Youth Committee is consulting with the Goals Committees to find out what are the respective goal town priorities, so that this enthusiasm can be channelled to priority goal towns. It is hoped that groups of youth will invade various goal towns after the winter school to help with the teaching work there.

A European Congress of Youth will be held in BELGIUM from 10-13 April, 1971. Sessions will be held in English and French. More information about this exciting occasion will follow later but in the meantime, if any youth who are considering going can translate English into French, would they please contact the secretary of the National Youth Committee:

Miss Hazel Baller,  
58 Coval Lane,  
Chelmsford, Essex.

A Swiss Winter School will be held in Fiesch, Valais, Switzerland between 25 December 1970 and 3 January 1971. Sessions will be held in French and German. If anyone should require more information about this school, please contact the National Youth Committee secretary, address above.

### TRAVEL TEACHING COMMITTEE

Several itineraries arranged by this Committee have now taken place. Hand of the Cause John Robarts and his wife Audrey toured the British Isles for six weeks and it is evident that there is a new spirit of prayer and dedication amongst the Friends since their visit. An outstanding example of the success of the meetings was the declaration of six new believers in Birmingham.

At very short notice Counsellor Betty Reed visited Epsom, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth, Brighton, Hove, Bournemouth, Poole, Chelmsford and Durham. She has reported successful meetings and has confirmed the "wonderful bubbling spirit throughout the community, and a lot of activity."

Two very spiritual young American Bahá'ís from Hawaii, Sheldon and Linda Ramer, visited various communities and their complete reliance on the Will of God was an inspiration to all those whom they met.

One declaration in Cambridge was a result of their visit.

Geoff Bridle of Peterborough had some very good meetings on his travel teaching trip to Durham, Carlisle, Kendal, Burnley, Liverpool and Kirkby. Not only was he a great help in these places, but the trip gave him new spirit and inspiration.

Richard Batrick, whilst visiting Britain from New Zealand, and before going on Pilgrimage, visited Newton Aycliffe, York, Leeds, Peterborough and Cambridge, showing some excellent slides of Bahá'ís in New Zealand and New Caledonia where his parents, Owen and Jeanette Batrick, are pioneers.

Philip O'Brien from Dublin had an excellent ten days in Eccles, Manchester, Chester, Shrewsbury, Hereford and Newport. He reports that he "couldn't be happier" with the trip and feels "completely rejuvenated". We have heard from various places that they were very pleased with his visits and Shrewsbury, in particular, want him back soon!

By next issue of the Journal we hope to have some news for you regarding a new scheme to carry out the Universal House of Justice's request that 'Systematic plans' for a 'constant stream of visiting teachers to every locality' be made. This will require the wholehearted co-operation of every Bahá'í in every Bahá'í Community which we are sure will be forthcoming.

All enquiries to:

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

### SALES COMMITTEE

The following items are, or will shortly be available through the Sales Committee, 44 Highbank, Brighton BN1 5GB.

- 1 Long playing record "Fire and Snow" — sixteen songs composed and sung by Bahá'ís. Approximate cost in the United Kingdom will be £2.17.6. If a large enough order can be sent to the American Publishing Trust, it may be possible to reduce the cost of £2.9.6. Ten weeks' delivery.
- 2 Bahá'í wall calendars and pocket calendars are already on order but are not expected to arrive until January 1971. Wall calendars will cost 2/6 and pocket calendars 8d. Please do not send money with your order — payment is due on delivery.
- 3 A few copies of the Sales Committee stock lists are still available. A copy may be obtained by sending a request to the above address together with a stamped addressed envelope. Some of the materials listed, which include posters, invitation forms, display cards, slides and tapes, may be of considerable use for proclamation.

## BAHÁ'Í PUBLISHING TRUST

### DECIMALISATION AND PRICE CHANGES

#### Decimal currency

On February 15th next existing shillings and pennies will cease to be used, being replaced by the new decimal currency.

#### New Catalogue

In readiness for this change the Trust are preparing a **new descriptive catalogue** to be accompanied by a **price-list** giving all prices in NEW PENCE (N.P.).

All local Assemblies in the British Isles will be sent a copy FREE as soon as it is available, which is expected to be in early February; individuals will then be able to obtain copies at 10NP (2/-) each, post free.

#### Increased prices

Constant rapid rises in printing costs are forcing us to frequently increase our prices so the **price-list** will be revised and issued afresh every six months.

#### Imported books and pamphlets

Owing to substantial rises in postage, carriage and other costs we are forced to increase the price of all imported items by 10%.

To avoid confusion and for the convenience of the friends we are postponing this increase to coincide with the change to decimal currency and, **providing we have the items in stock** so that we can despatch them before February 1st, we will not charge this extra 10% on orders **received by us** before January 10th.

#### Invoices

Invoices for goods despatched by us before the end of January will be priced in shillings and pence; all invoices for goods despatched by us on or after February 1st 1971 will be priced in New Pennies (N.P.).

### BAHÁ'Í WORLD, Volume 13

It is much regretted that owing to delay at the printer, it will still be some time before we receive this book from Haifa.



## PROCLAMATION COMMITTEE

### PRESS RELEASES

The Proclamation Committee is in the process of preparing several standard press releases which can be used locally to obtain some publicity for the Faith. Naturally, local newspapers are interested in local people and the committee feels that one of the best ways of obtaining publicity for the Faith is when one of the local believers goes on pilgrimage.

We would, therefore, ask members of the community who feel that they have an ability, to submit a proposed press release to the community. This release should consist of 200/300 words and we would be grateful if you would submit it to **Mrs. Margaret Bachrich, 63 Nelson Road, Ipswich IP4 4DU**, before the end of December in order that the Committee can use all your contributions to compile a release to be distributed for general use amongst the community.

### EXHIBITS

The following Bahá'í exhibits may be borrowed free from Mr. Ted Cardell, Manor Farm, Great Paxton, St. Neots, Hunts. Local assemblies or groups should arrange to collect them from Manor Farm or bear transport and other costs.

- 1 "The Earth is One Country and Mankind its Citizens". A revolving stage displaying dolls in many national costumes dancing round a globe. A stage surrounds all. The above caption is fixed over the top. Spotlights on dolls and caption. Stands on table. Separately, an illuminated box 2'x1'x10" showing prayer for all nations. This exhibit travels in three packing cases and was delivered to Cornwall and back by British Railways van for £7. Handyman needed to assemble by diagram.
- 2 Eight coloured photos of the Holy Places (8" x 10") plus poster of four temples and information, 3' x 4'. Can be sent by post.
- 3 Wording 'The Bahá'í Faith' mounted on 11' base. Letters are 12" high in ½" polystyrene. Dismantles into package for back seat of car. Designed to be mounted over big shop window, etc., inside or outside. Is waterproof.
- 4 Display box. World map with 80 coloured lights showing N.S.A.s 4' x 3' x 10". Stands on table. Travels by van or boot of big car.
- 5 Display box. Map of Europe with photos of eight Rulers to receive letters from Bahá'u'lláh. Coloured ribbons run to lighted box showing names of Kings with comments. Stands on table. Travels in van or big car boot. Opens out to 3' x 8'. Travels as 3' x 4' x 10".
- 6 Coloured photos of Shrine and Temple in glassed frames 16" x 20". Only travels by car.

Please book well ahead and pack very carefully when returning.

### BRAND NEW PUBLICATION!

Stories for Children

by Jacqueline Mehrabi

Thirteen beautifully written stories, each one subtly highlighting a simple moral, are presented in this exciting first publication by Jackie Mehrabi.

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