

BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

For circulation among Bahá'ís only

27 Rutland Gate, London, S.W.7

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

No. 175

JULY/AUGUST 1966

CONVENTION 123 (1966)



CABLE FROM UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE TO CONVENTION.

FILLED ADMIRATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS SPIRIT ANIMATING BRITISH
BAHÁ'Í COMMUNITY. ASSURE PRAYERS HOLY SHRINES CONFIRM
DETERMINATION EXPRESSED CONVENTION. LOVE.

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE.

NEWS FROM THE WORLD CENTRE.

A selection of news items from the Universal House of Justice and the Hands of the Cause residing in the Holy Land.

Ridván Messages, 1966—We share with the friends everywhere the following cables and messages received from the various National and Regional Bahá'í Conventions and Assemblies throughout the world.

AFRICA.

Indian Ocean.

29 Delegates 127 friends Third Convention inspired illuminating message wholeheartedly accept dedication tasks allocated reaffirm unreserved loyalty devotion supreme institution request prayers shrines fulfillment goals.

Kenya.

Kenya Convention met Kakamega 148 delegates present Universal House of Justice and Hands of The Cause of God Africa message read deeply appreciated your blessings much loving greetings convention wonderful in progress appreciate presence board member Mukalama.

North East Africa.

... Convention North East Africa widely attended grateful stirring message generating new spirit conscious ability overcome difficulties pledged pioneering intensive teaching fulfillment goals beseech prayers assure house loyal devotion... convention pledged two international numerous regional traveling teachers pioneering deputization contributions Panama Temple payment 50000 square metres Temple site Addis start construction summer winter school contributions building National Hazira Addis beseech prayers fulfillment.

North West Africa.

... 16 Delegates N.S.A. members board Kedaneh gathered Northwest African Convention Rabat stop thrilled inspiring convention message stop loyally beseech prayers most Holy threshold supplicate guidance confirmations fulfill assigned goals.

South Central Africa.

40 believers including 11 delegates and Hand Cause Robarts inspired by Ridván message resolved arise teach as never before fulfill challenging goals Nine Year Plan and increase sacrifice service Bahá'u'lláh Convention determined assure success formation Zambian N.S.A. beseech your prayers love.

Tanzania.

Humbly inform August Body formation N.S.A. Tanzania... Convention board members present 33 delegates attended 33 valid votes cast beseech blessing prayers exalted inspiration.

Uganda and Central Africa.

86 delegates including 15 Burundi three board members 40 visitors attending 11th Convention send loving greetings assurance loyalty devotion stop Brazzaville assembly reformed

Taiid Jackton proceeding Kigali Sunday stop grateful your inspiring message.

West Africa.

3rd Annual Convention Bahá'is West Africa opened with great impact Liberia Spirit Bahá'u'lláh evident message world centre bound renew our dedication pledge meet challenge remaining goals Nine Year Plan prayers.

West Central Africa.

Fifty-two delegates assembled convention honoured presence Hand Olinga grateful loving message send loving Ridván greetings beseech prayers House Hands.

AMERICA.

Alaska.

Rejoice overwhelming victories Bahá'í world and Alaskan home front stop Virgin Goals Temple site funds Liberia Luxembourg fulfilled stop quarter Alaskan believers seventeen delegates convention pledge strenuous united efforts exceed present victory grateful inspiring presence board members Brown please ask prayers shrines loving greetings.

Argentina.

Grateful inspiring message presence hand prayers shrines success deliberations.

Bolivia.

Sixth Bahá'í Convention attendance auxiliary Witzel eighty believers send Bahá'í love greetings ask prayers shrines goals plan.

Brazil.

Brazil convention inaugurated presence hand two board members 25 delegates beseech prayer shrines achievement goals deepest love.

Canada.

Delegates friends gathered nations capital thrilled heartened message house stop request prayers holy shrines confirm renewed spirit dedication Gods Holy Cause achieve total victory Nine Year Plan.

Chile.

Delegates believers including Mapuches lovingly greet House Justice Hands rejoice report fulfillment all pioneer goals 25 assemblies 79 localities stop deeply deplore passing distinguished maidservant Jessie Revell stop fervently request prayers confirmation efforts.

Colombia.

Delegates visitors VI Annual Convention Colombia convey loving greetings determined achieve strengthen goals in

carefully conceived plans towards realization instructions contained your message.

Cuba.

Sending loving greeting commemorating Ridván Feast.

Dominican Republic.

Immense gratitude your important profound message hearts dedicated accomplish tasks.

Ecuador.

Convention thrilled marvellous message seventeen delegates visitors united enthusiastic consultation plans loving greetings supreme body Hands beseech prayers shrines.

El Salvador.

Message inspired friends win teaching goals this year increase contributions celebrations institutes gratitude.

Guatemala.

Gained Chorti Uspanteca new assembly Belize two proclamation fund reinforced native teaching national assembly strengthened dedicated.

Haiti.

30 assemblies 6 groups 1492 believers grateful Ridván message pledge will carry out provisions with utmost vigour our Convention largest ever held Haiti... with Bahá'í affections.

Honduras.

Deeply appreciate inspiring message convention assembly dedicate new effort obedience grateful attendance handfaith Dr. Giachery love.

Jamaica.

Unswerving loyalty pledged no message received postal strike determined completion Nine Year Goals love.

Mexico.

Visitors delegates board member Artemus Lamb National Convention Mexico rejoice fulfillment Ridván 1965 goals stop twenty-six assemblies eighty-nine localities stop pledge increase fund teaching efforts.

Nicaragua.

Gathered convention confident assistance Bahá'u'lláh victories Nine Year Plan with new N.S.A. loving greetings

Panama.

Great joy receive news pioneers located deepest gratitude generous donation Panama Temple promise utmost efforts fervent prayers accomplish goals Nine Year Plan.

United States.

Deepest appreciation inspiration clarity and depth of Ridván message stop this call to greater concentration

on essentials individual and collective Bahá'í life will inspire revivify delegates and national community (National Assembly).

Friends gathered National Convention Bahá'í House worship heartfilled praise Bahá'u'lláh thankful love and services beloved hands standard bearers Nine Year Plan grateful strenuously laboring Universal House Justice for challenging message providing divine guidance specific tasks ahead and increasing our awareness spiritual responsibilities as bearers name of God this day stirred by knowledge we face era longed for expansion hope seize great new opportunities carry Gods healing afflicted mankind pledge utmost efforts intensify and expand teaching activities greatly increase flow of funds sustain forward moving Army of Divine Commander deepen strengthen community life and more and more attain that distinction in individual lives exemplified by 'Abdul Bahá we pray for entire human family fervently we supplicate Bahá'u'lláh's assistance oppressed Bahá'í sister communities and His strengthening grace enable us match words and promises deeds (National Convention).

Conventions attendance 1224 including Hand Cause William Sears 146 delegates (National Assembly).

Uruguay.

Glorious greetings great spiritual force among 37 participants resolved surpass teaching goals plan by next Ridván love.

Venezuela.

Report convening Venezuelan VI National Bahá'í Convention request prayers success our efforts accomplish goals.

ASIA.

Arabia.

"Our tenth National Convention . . . was held with the participation of 22 delegates. The message of the Trustees of the Merciful was read. The Convention expresses its wholehearted readiness to carry out the wishes of that unique Body to whom all of the people of Bahá must turn. We humbly supplicate that sanctified and blessed institution to pray at the Holy Shrines for the removal of difficulties, the achievement of success in our pioneering and teaching responsibilities, and the fulfillment of our goals of the Plan. The participating delegates, following the example set by that Supreme Body, have pledged to contribute Rupees two thousand (L/150) as an initial donation to inaugurate the Panama Temple Fund in Arabia."

Brunei.

Grateful attendance Hand /Cause Featherstone eighteen delegates present first National Convention Brunei N.S.A. elected every effort fulfill goals plan earliest solicit prayers.

Burma.

Assembled delegates visitors send loving Ridván greetings assure allegiance beseech prayers Holy Shrines achievements goals set.

Ceylon.

Thirteen delegates forty-one visitors including Executive Board Member Payman pioneers Trueman Australia Hongshuen Malaysia present convention stop overjoyed formation approximately thirty local assemblies including one ethnic Rodiya village stop first local assembly formed Maldives stop . . . Convention resolved home front goals before next Ridván nine thousand Baha'is five hundred centres three hundred local assemblies stop beseeching prayers Shrines continued success confirmation fulfillment goals assigned Nine Year Plan home front goals resolved convention stop pledge dedication all energies service faith reiterate unflinching obedience loyalty.

India.

Delegates board members assemblies convention presence Hands Cause Samandari Muhajer board member Kamalabbas deliberation begun assure Re-dedication community with steadfastness renewed faith achieve remaining goals participate expansion consolidation teaching campaign plan outlined Ridván message solicit blessing prayers confirmation Holy Shrines.

Korea.

Hearts overjoyed pledge compliance thrilling convention message renewed devotion continuing sustained teaching efforts over one hundred assemblies assured beseech prayers Shrines deepest love.

Malaysia.

Successful Malaysian convention dedicates itself goal Nine Year Plan grateful presence Hand Cause Featherstone.

Pakistan.

Twenty-five delegates tenth convention presence distinguished Hand Cause Jinab-i-Samandari board members Kamil Abbas Bakhtiari Ilmi and friends various centres thrilled glorious Ridván message reiterate pledges fulfill our share goals extend loving greetings supplicate prayers fulfillment Nine Year Plan stop request share Hands Holyland.

Persia.

Convention presence Hands members auxiliary board convened with limited number of nineteen delegates centres for one day only stop inspiring message attentively perused humbly supplicate prayers Shrines carry out remaining stages.

Philippine Islands.

Sixty present third convention including twenty-seven delegates eighty-six voted district meetings honored presence Hand Featherstone Elevating Spirit delegates board Soraya Samaneigo Ioas present stop convention assures great effort stop local travelling teachers plan initiated humbly request prayers.

Thailand.

Deeply grateful presence Hand Featherstone together with board members Beizayee and Daugherty stop twenty-one delegates present convey your august selves love greetings good news formation seven new local assemblies over nine hundred new believers

this year stop confident new impetus teaching work growth Bahá'í Faith beginning beseeching your prayers Holy threshold blessing guidance fulfillment goals.

North East Asia.

Grateful your inspiring message prayers accomplishment goals contributions pledged Hazíratu'l-Quds Shiraoui Hokkaido assure renewed dedication Nine Year Plan loving Ridván greetings.

Turkey.

Your heart touching Ridván message shared by all delegates 8th Convention stop each and all beg your prayers for achievement our future tasks stop auxiliary board members delegates friends send their heartfelt love Ridván greetings.

Vietnam.

146 delegates gathered third national convention Vietnam Supplicate your prayers continued progress faith and removal obstacles stop . . . reports thus far received local assemblies elected 48 old 78 new thus totalling 126 plus numbers new believers over five thousand three hundred since last Ridván.

AUSTRALASIA.

Australia.

Presence board member Howard Harwood deeply appreciated stop 28 delegates friends humbled message stop will strive redouble efforts meet all commitments stop seek prayers Holy Shrines.

Hawaiian Islands.

Deeply stirred your message its power intensified presence beloved Hand Cause Khadem pledge rebouable efforts achievement tasks intensification teaching augmentation fund exemplification Bahá'í inner qualities to world.

New Zealand.

Tenth convention deeply appreciate loving guidance Universal House of Justice Hands enthusiastic encouragement presence auxiliary board members humbly request continued supplication Shrines fulfillment teaching plans coupled increased youth activities.

South Pacific Ocean.

Your inspiring message so fitting this exciting convention including many delegates friends South Pacific long reports to follow include many requests to serve as travelling teachers and first publication Tokelauan language rejoice N.S.A. Gilbert Ellice Islands much love includes message Hand Cause Featherstone this Ridván with Bahá'í Spirit so potent warmest Bahá'í greetings.

South West Pacific Ocean.

Delighted message gratefully received stop eighty delegates and friends stop challenge accepted duty inescapable Ya Bahaul Abha.

EUROPE.

Austria.

Deeply moved inspiring message renew pledge strive teaching goals Nine Year Plan outlined stop sincere thanks remembering us in your constant prayers devotedly.

British Isles.

Vastly increased numbers attending British Bahá'í Convention overwhelmingly conscious urgency sacred obligations Nine Year Plan stop love prayers of Universal House Justice Hands Cause strengthen our determination meet challenge world-encompassing teaching fulfilling 'Abdul-Bahá's heartshaking appeal stop forty-six assemblies maintained home front eleven formed London Boroughs stop please share Hands devotedly.

Denmark

Hearts full of love Danish national convention Ridván 123 thank you deeply for your inspiring message we are grateful for loving presence auxiliary board member Johanne Hoeeg we humbly beg for your continued prayers fulfillment of our tasks in Nine Year Plan.

Finland

Friends 5th Finnish Convention sending deep gratitude asking prayers Holy Shrines achievement glorious Nine Year Plan.

France.

In presence Hand Cause Doctor Muhlschlegel and auxiliary board member Miss Migette united harmoniously at convention stimulated by your inspiring message testify our loyalty affection obedience your divine institution stop assure you will exert efforts with view glorious proclamation within framework your directives stop supplicate prayers Holy Shrines for France.

Germany.

Over 150 delegates guests 36th convention Frankfurt brace themselves speedy fulfillment goals stop overjoyed wonderful success Bahá'í world grateful inspiration message two new assemblies formed Wuerzburg Neckargemund assure devotion service cause supplicate prayers Shrines.

Italy.

Fifth Italian convention presence Hand Cause Dr. Muhlschlegel three board members delegates friends opened third Ridván inspired thrilling message infallible institution Bahá'u'lláh delighted unprecedented progress faith conscious responsibilities resolve dedicate utmost efforts teaching supplicate prayers Holy Shrines early achievement recognition other goals Nine Year Plan.

Luxembourg.

Presence Hand Cause John Ferraby delegates assembled friends deeply thankful celebrate fifth national convention following formation three requested L.S.A.s. rejoice with you resounding victory pioneer field accept challenge raise intensify teaching to pitch never before attained beseech prayers Holy Shrines our love prayers with you all.

Netherlands.

Grateful Universal House of Justice inspiring Ridván message rekindling determination achieve specific goals stop radiantly joyful formation assembly Surinam success world pioneer goals stop entreat prayers Holy Shrines stop rest assured our unflinching devotion.

continued on page eleven

— VALOROUS CO-WORKERS —

The Universal House of Justice is calling the Bahá'í Youth to fields of service and, in the following letter, to travel work and stay in territories situated in the large scale conversion areas throughout the world, to be named when the response from national communities is known. The youth are responding energetically and with sacrifice in facing the challenge and playing their part to help achieve the goals of the Nine Year Plan. We are told that during the life-time of those who are now young, the condition of the world, and the place of the Bahá'í Cause in it will change immeasurably, for we are entering a highly critical phase in this era of transition."

This call from the Universal House of Justice is a further opportunity and challenge to which youth can respond. Read and study the letter. Consult with parents. Any young person who would arise to seek service in this field should contact the National Youth Committee for further information and consultation.

23 February 1966

To the National Spiritual Assemblies of the Bahá'ís of the British Isles, Germany, Persia and the United States.

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

The teaching work now conducted in large-scale conversion areas throughout the world is presenting challenging problems that must be resolutely and energetically met. These problems, including the lack of postal facilities, the illiteracy of the indigenous population, and inadequate local means of transportation, render, in many instances, the mere act of correspondence by mail or the sending of literature by the National Assembly or its Teaching Committees almost ineffective and make it imperative that, however inhospitable the climate and inaccessible the centres, a continuous stream of travelling teachers make regular visits to the various local

communities to encourage and inspire the friends.

The National Spiritual Assemblies responsible for these areas are exerting every effort and valiantly attempting to meet those requirements, but the field is so vast, the funds are so low, and the workers are so few that the needs can be only partially met.

The purpose of this letter is to bring these needs to your attention, and to express the feeling of the House of Justice that within the ranks of the Bahá'í youth of your countries there may well be those who would volunteer to spend a period of one year, six months or even their summer holidays in travelling to countries named by the House of Justice as requiring such assistance, thus availing themselves of the opportunity to render the Cause a unique service and to acquire for themselves valuable Bahá'í experience that would be useful to them in their future services to the Cause of God.

It would be better if, for the present, such youth projects be confined to single young men or young couples. They will have to be self-supporting and while in the field be under the direction of the National Spiritual Assembly concerned. Many Bahá'í parents may willingly provide the expenses of such projects for their children.

The Universal House of Justice has not set up any mechanism for the handling of such projects. We are only at this stage writing to you to see what response there will be from your national communities. Upon Hearing from you further on this subject, we will specify the territories to which these young workers could be directed. These territories are located in Africa, Latin America, the Indian sub-continent, South East Asia and the Pacific area.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

(Signed and Sealed)
THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE
OF JUSTICE

"OUR HERITAGE"

The Bahá'ís of Birmingham have embarked upon a series of week-end deepening schools to be held once every six weeks in Birmingham at THE SELLY OAK BOYS' SCHOOL, OAK TREE LANE, beginning with the History of the Faith.

The speakers for the next three week-ends will be Gloria Faizi and Farhang Jahanpour.

All attending the school will be asked to pay a registration fee of 5/-.

The following is a list of hotels in Birmingham:—

Name and Address	Telephone No.	
Abbey, 16 Portland Road	EDGbaston 2700	23/-
Aberavon, 30 Portland Road	EDGbaston 1983	23/-
Lackenash, 19 Clarendon Road	EDGbaston 3192	24/6
Osborne, 184 Hagley Road	EDGbaston 1787	22/6
Penn Croft, 504 City Road	BEArwood 2289	21/-
Portland House, 221 Hagley Road	EDGbaston 0117	25/-
Sandy Lodge 19 Sandon Road	BEArwood 4496	25/-
Woodlands Guest House, 381 Hagley Road	BEArwood 3935	22/6

Free sleeping accommodation for those with sleeping bags.

Dates of the next three schools are: July 2/3, August 13/14 and September 24/25.

We hope many of you will be able to come and help make these schools a great success.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY'S NEWS LETTER

DECLARATIONS

We are delighted to welcome to the Faith Mrs. Valerie Hurrell of Norwich; Mrs. Mary and Mr. Hugh Gallagher of Edinburgh; Mrs. Barbara Anderson of Exeter; Mr. Ernest P. Morgan of Worsthorne, Nr. Burnley; Mrs. Esther A. Cheeseright of Hove; Mrs. Margaret Manning and Diana Segal (Youth) of Wokingham R.D.; Mrs. Sophia and Mr. Jack Tuck and Payam Afsharian (Youth) of Bournemouth; Miss Mary C. Leatham of Belfast; Mrs. Edna M. Sorenson of Liverpool; Mrs. Ida Fearney of Southport; Mrs. Gladys and Mr. Joseph Heskell of Worthing; Houman Assassi (Youth) of Brighton; Mrs. Pauline Hulme of Eccles; Mrs. Minnie Dalziel of Thornton, Liverpool; Lesley M. Speakman (Youth) of Burnley; Shirin Javid of Kensington and Robert P. Collins of Southgate (both Youth, London); Farhang Tahzib (Youth) of Sutton Valence, Kent; Jennifer L. Sharp, Robert Ronconi and Stuart A. Jefferson (all Youth) of Swansea; Miss Sally Villiers-Stuart (Youth claiming voting rights) of Oxford; Miss Carol J. Robinson of Glasgow; Mrs. Daphne A. Richmond and Mr. Michael J. P. Veacock of Georgetown, Mrs. Beryl Griffith of East Ruimsveldt, Mr. Neil Graham of Plaisance, Mr. Winthrop N. Cadogan of Wismar, Mr. Archibald M. Draker of Mackenzie, Leon O. Mountrashon (Youth) of Campbellville, all of Guyana; Mrs. Cynthia Youde of Pontypridd; Vivian Bartlett (Youth) of Cardiff; Garry Edwards, Christine J. Morgan and Geoffrey Teague (all Youth) of Glymmeath, Glam.; Hamid N. Nosrat (Youth) of Brighton; Glyn McGorry Eynon of Cwmgwrach, Glam.; Mr. William Davidson of Dumbarton; Mr. John C. Harflett of Reading; Mrs. Mabel Reynolds of St. Agnes, Cornwall; Mr. Houshang Rastegar (claiming voting rights) of Portsmouth; Mrs. Jemama M. Duncan of Shetland. A specially warm welcome goes to Mrs. Emma Reinert of Torshavn, the first Faroese to accept the Message of Bahá'u'lláh.

We discovered that the names of some Friends who declared at a time when there was a gap in the issue of the Journal were not announced. We regret this and extend now a warm welcome to Miss Lois Chinn and Miss Angela M. Dickinson of Belfast; Mrs. Joyce Bissoon and Miss Cheryl M. Pierre of Georgetown, Guyana; Sally J. G. Pearson (Youth) of Dalston, Carlisle; Miss Sheila Powell of Chester (who pioneered to Swaziland); Miss Jacqueline M. Tadmán of Blackpool; Mr. Ulric G. St. Clair of Mackenzie, Guyana; Mrs. Margaret E. Watkins and Miss Margaret Hufton (Youth) of London; Susan Javid (Youth) of Hove; Patricia Brown (Youth) of Christchurch; Jim Shields (Youth) of Newtonabbey, Co. Antrim; and Fuad Sabour of Carlisle (now in Pakistan), Mark

Trewartha of Goovrea and Anne Ridge of Oxford (now pioneering in the Inner Hebrides) all Youth claiming voting rights.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

The N.S.A. Officers this year are Mr. Joe Jameson (Chairman); Mr. John Long (Vice Chairman); Mrs. Betty Reed (Secretary); and Mr. Charles Macdonald (Treasurer).

RESULT OF BY-ELECTION

Eric Hellicar was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Wade who has been invited by the Universal House of Justice to serve at the World Centre.

WORK OF THE FIRST N.S.A. MEETING

The first N.S.A. meeting of the new administrative year was held over the week-end May 13th/15th, and the National Assembly immediately considered Convention recommendations; Convention delegates and local assemblies have already received news of the action that will be taken. The next thing was to appoint committees; it was noted with pleasure that 130 different Friends last year served on national committees. Invitations to serve on this year's committees have already been sent out, their terms of reference will be worked on by the N.S.A. at its June meeting, and a list of committee membership and responsibilities should appear in the next issue of "Bahá'i Journal."

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TEACHING

The National Assembly has appointed Mr. Joe Jameson to receive offers from Friends in the British Isles who are able to respond to the stirring appeal in the Ridván Message from the Universal House of Justice to take part in the international travel teaching programme. Offers can be for any period. Joe's address is 78, Wingrove Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, 4. A student in Northern Ireland who is returning to his home in Canada for the summer vacation has offered to help with the teaching work there, and several other Friends have offered for travel-teaching in Europe.

We are happy to welcome Mrs. Nell McMiles from Australia, who after staying in the London area will be visiting Scotland; Mr. R. Patterson also from Australia, who is coming to Scotland; Tom Garroway from Canada, who will be spending his summer vacation here, the plan is for Tom to help in Wales from mid-June to the end of July, then to return to Canada via Faroes and Iceland; Dr. & Mrs. Hallam (Bob and Chris, who send warmest love to everybody) who will be back with Linda at the beginning of June for six weeks from their pioneer

post in Mackenzie, Guyana, and will visit Manchester, Newcastle and Inverness, as well as the London area; Mr. Graham and Mrs. Kay (née Featherstone) Waterman, who have been on leave from India with their baby son, and have visited London Borough Communities.

Mr. Bernard Leach of St. Ives, one of the world's foremost potters, was invited by the British Council to exhibit his work in Columbia and Venezuela, South America. Before going there, he asked the organising committee in each of those countries to set aside an evening in his programme for him to be with the local Bahá'is. Through this request, the sister of the President had an invitation sent to a Bahá'i delegation to attend the reception which President Valencia gave for Bernard in Bogota, and five of the Friends were present. At a separate Bahá'i meeting there on April 29th, Bernard spoke to the title "Unity of East and West in Art and Religion." He goes on to Japan, where in Tokyo he will receive an award of merit from the Japanese Government.

Founder of the world-wide "Men of the Trees" movement, Mr. Richard St. Barbe Baker, visited England from New Zealand, then continued his tour by going to Africa. When St. Barbe returns here he will help further with the teaching work by visiting Ireland, before going back to Australasia.

NEWS FROM GUYANA

British Guiana, for over 130 years a British Crown Colony, became independent on May 26th, and is now called Guyana. Tremendous progress was made there in the last nine months, since the Congress called by the Hands of the Cause of God in the Western Hemisphere. The goal town of Campbellville formed its assembly at Ridván, and Mackenzie almost made its goal of an L.S.A. There are now seven Bahá'is in Mackenzie city and two across the Demerara River in Wismar; they are pressing on to bring their numbers up to twelve in Mackenzie as quickly as possible. Teaching work is continuing strongly in the villages close to Georgetown, and a six-point plan of teaching and consolidation has already been worked out by the Area Teaching Committee and the Georgetown Assembly. With the establishment of the local assembly of Paramaribo in the capital city of Surinam, that country achieved its immediate goal. The vital factor in the Guianas now is the re-opening of Cayenne, capital of French Guiana, and pioneers are urgently needed for this. Executive Board Member Mr. Rangvald Taetz from Brazil visited the Guianas just before Ridván en route to the Convention in Venezuela; and Guyana had the good fortune of yet another visit from Auxiliary Board Member, Mr. Anthony Worley, who went across from

his pioneer post in Surinam on a professional visit for the independence celebrations. Our 9 Year Plan goal is, of course, the establishment of a new National Assembly in the Guianas, for which the British Community is responsible.

NEWS FROM SOUTH AMERICA

From the Hand of the Cause of God, Mr. Jalal Khazé, we learned that the teams working in Bolivia to help the Friends to elect local assemblies worked wonderfully; at the time of writing 136 assemblies were known to have been formed on April 21st, and a further 26 were possible. The size of the task in South America can be seen when we compare the L.S.A. goals of the 9 Year Plan in that Continent with those in Europe: in Europe we began the Plan with 182 local assemblies, and the goal is to have 378; in South America they began the Plan with 162 and their goal is to have 926 assemblies. Venezuela already has the potentiality of exceeding its assembly goal for the entire 9 Year Plan, for they require 50 L.S.A.'s. and there are already about 60 places with more than nine believers, but help is needed to get the assemblies formed and last Ridván it could not be done. The goal of 150 centres in Venezuela has already been passed.

NEWS FROM GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS

One of our 9 Year Plan goals is to assist the N.S.A. of the South Pacific Ocean in the consolidation of these islands. The Gilberts are 17 coral atolls (less than 400 sq. miles of land) in a quarter-of-a-million square miles of Pacific Ocean, and there is a Bahá'í Community on each atoll. The Ellice Islands are less well populated Bahá'í-wise, there are believers on only two of them. Pioneers from the British Isles are urgently needed, and this is one of our pioneer goals for which the Universal House of Justice is still exerting constant pressure on us. Four school-teachers are trying to get Government teaching jobs there; please pray fervently that they succeed, as it is very difficult indeed to get into this Colony. One pioneer, Elizabeth Blumer, has gone out from Australia. From Mrs. Mabel Sneider Aritiera, pioneer in Tarawa, we learned that they have purchased their National Hazíratu'l-Quds, they ordered it from England and expect it to arrive shortly. Gilbert & Ellice are to have their own National Assembly at Ridván next year, so there is an urgent need for consolidation.

OBITUARY

With great regret we announce the passing on March 31st, in Exeter, of Miss Florence Pinchon (previously in Bournemouth); on 11th May, also in Exeter, of dear Joe Lee (previously of Manchester); and earlier of the dear blind Bahá'í, Mr. Morgan, of British Guiana. Miss Pinchon is well known to Bahá'ís all over the world through her booklet "Life After Death," which contains the Bahá'í Teachings

on the immortality of the soul; frail in body but indomitable in spirit, dear Miss Pinchon waited serenely to pass through the door to the Abhá Kingdom, only a few days before her death we received a letter from her in which she welcomed the Messenger of Joy. Joe Lee, who pioneered with his family to Brighton and then to Torquay before moving to Exeter will be much loved and remembered for his valiant spirit and his intense desire to serve Bahá'u'lláh in every circumstance of his life. Mr. Morgan's passing followed an operation in the hospital, which could not be successful; a wonderful memorial meeting was held for him in the Georgetown Bahá'í Centre.

HANDS OF THE CAUSE OF GOD, DR. A. MUHLSCHLEGEL AND MR. JOHN FERRABY

We are delighted to report that Dr. Muhlschlegel will attend the Dalston Hall Summer School from August 20th to approximately August 25th. This is welcome news as it indicates that he is in better health again. Mr. Ferraby will attend the first week of the Harlech Summer School, from August 20th to 26th, and then go to Cumberland for the second week of Dalston Hall, from August 27th to September 3rd.

RESULTS OF THE ELECTION OF THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY AT CONVENTION 123:

Charles Macdonald	...	...	63
Betty Reed	...	...	62
John Long	...	...	58
Abbas Afnan	...	...	51
Adib Taherzadeh	...	...	48
Joe Jameson	...	...	45
John Wade	...	...	44
Owen Battrick	...	...	34
Elizabeth Chapman	...	...	30
Eric Hellicar	22; Mrs. Gloria Faizi	18;	
Mrs. Marion Hofman	16; Mr. Eruch Munsiff	15; Mrs. Meherangiz Munsiff	14;
Mr. George Bowers	12; Mr. Ted Cardell	12; John Morley	10;
Philip Hainsworth	9; Lois Hainsworth	8; Valerie Morley	and Aldie Roberts
7 each; Farhang Jahanpour	6; Kathleen Ackroyd	5. In addition 3 friends had	4 votes each, 8 had 3 each, 10 had 2 each and 32 had 1 vote each.

EDITORIAL NOTE

We regret delay of the issue of the Journal. This has been due to change of membership of the Journal Committee and subsequent change of printers. We hope to re-establish the regular issue of the Journal and we ask all Communities and Committees to help us by the timely submission of articles, reports and news items preferably type-written, double-spaced on one side of the paper. All correspondence should be sent to:

J. COATES,
Editor Bahá'í Journal,
45, Overfield Road,
Fawdon,
Newcastle upon Tyne, 3.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ALASKA.

Research Needed for Proclamation Anniversary.

The Alaska Proclamation Committee is gathering background information for use during the 1967 maximum publicity effort. Since this period celebrates the 100th anniversary of Bahá'u'lláh's Tablets to the Kings, the Committee would like a complete biographical paper on the following historical personalities:

Francis-Joseph, Austrian Emperor
William I, King of Prussia
Sultan Abdul' Aziz of Turkey
Napoleon III, France
Nasiri'd-Din Shah, Persia
Queen Victoria of England
Nicolaevitch Alexander II, Czar of Russia
Pope Pius IX

If you enjoy doing this type of research and will be able to volunteer to produce a paper on one or several of these monarchs, will you please write to the Proclamation Committee, Georgine Moul, Secretary, P.O. Box 325, Douglas, Alaska.

CANADA.

Canadian Pioneer Makes Farthest North Teaching Trip on Planet.

Last summer, Bill Carr, devoted and long-time pioneer to Thule in north Greenland, had an opportunity to travel to the northmost point ever visited by a Bahá'í anywhere on the planet, when he flew to the tiny settlement of Alert at the northern tip of Ellesmere Island in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago. Bill writes:

"In answer to a prayer, and most likely with the spiritual help of the friends in Green Acres, I was able to obtain a ride on a cargo plane re-supplying Alert, Northwest Territories. The purpose of this trip was to teach the Faith at what is now the world's northmost permanent settlement, only 500 miles from the north pole. Freedom was a little restricted because of security, but Bahá'í literature was placed in the library at Alert . . ."

COLOMBIA.

The Bahá'ís of Colombia have set a goal of 5,000 new believers this year, and they are planning intensive teaching work among certain tribes of Indians.

The National Spiritual Assembly of Colombia is the first in the Bahá'í World to complete all the goals for the Nine Year Plan.

FRANCE.

French Summer School.

The National Spiritual Assembly of France through its Summer School Committee announces that their Summer School will be held at LUCHON (Haute-Garonne) in the Pyrenees from 28th August to 4th September, 1966.

VIET NAM.

Though this country is now torn by war, they have already 70 Assemblies in Viet Nam and 6 Assemblies in Cambodia.

N.S.A. SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT TO CONVENTION

HOME FRONT

The National Assembly is happy to announce that forty-six of the fifty Home Front assemblies were maintained, and eleven new assemblies were formed in the London Boroughs. The Universal House of Justice acknowledged this as "splendid accomplishments on the Home Front." The four assemblies lost were Aberdeen, Burnley, Northampton and Torquay. Unforeseen circumstances caused the loss of Northampton and Torquay. A believer in Northampton died on the afternoon of April 20th; and a family coming to England from overseas scheduled to go to Torquay, found upon arriving on April 22nd that they were not able to settle there. The eleven new Assemblies in London were formed in the Royal London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea—in which Convention is being held—and the London Boroughs of Barnet, Brent, Camden, Croydon, Ealing, Hammersmith, Harringay, Lambeth, Wandsworth, and the City of Westminster in which the Haziratu'l-Quds is located.

OVERSEAS PIONEER GOALS

Good news has been flowing into the National Office in the last few weeks. In the overseas pioneer field Philip and Pari Harvey, with their children Shirin and Colin, have arrived safely in Windhoek; South West Africa; Iris Foster and Sheila Powell have arrived in Swaziland; Kirby Kent in the Balearics and Hugh McKinley in Cyclades; Ruhi Yeganeh arrived in good time in Belize, Central America; and nearer home, Margaret Metcalf has re-opened the Isle of Man. On May 4th Maryam Shaker sails for Trinidad, where she will be joined in July by Nikoo Raoofian. On May 13th Patrick and Christine Beer fly to Ghana. Pioneers are scheduled to go to Fiji, Gilbert & Ellice, Sierra Leone, and Ceylon, but prayers are needed that the way will open up for them to settle in these difficult territories.

OVERSEAS VICTORIES

Wonderful news arrived from Faroes at 10.15 p.m. on the evening of April 4th, in a cable which read, "REJOICE DECLARATION ALLAUABHA ESKIL LOVE EMMA," and we knew that the first Faroese Bahá'í had been born. Within a few days news had come from Lady Hornell in Sardinia that the first Sardinian believer had declared.

A cable from British Guiana brought tidings that a local assembly in the goal town of Campbellville was assured; and then on April 25th a cable came from the N.S.A. of Holland, "REJOICE PARAMARIBO ASSEMBLY FORMED." Paramaribo is the capital of Surinam, and the establishment of an assembly there is a tremendous victory. These are two steps towards the formation of the new National Assembly of the Guianas.

We are also happy that the way has been cleared for the completion of the legal formalities of the purchase of Temple Land in Eire, which should be finalised by the end of May.

DECLARATIONS AND REGISTRATION OF CHILDREN; PIONEER PROJECTS ON HOME FRONT

The total number of declarations in the year ended April 20th, 1966, was 149. Figures for the last three years are—during the year ended April 20th, 1964, 101 adults, 27 youth; during the year ended April 20th, 1965, 86 adults, 57 youth; during the year ended April 20th, 1966, 103 adults, 46 youth. This means that one-third of the present British Community have become Bahá'í since the World Congress.

Eighty-six children have so far been registered at the request of their Bahá'í parents, and some more are still to come in.

In the course of the year 159 pioneer offers were received and 64 pioneer projects brought to fruition.

The organising of circuit teaching, which has already been put in hand in Scotland, Wales and Ireland, is now also under way in England. Five Youth declarations in South Wales have brought us much joy and re-emphasise the effectiveness of travel teaching when it is undertaken with the love and enthusiasm of the Welsh Friends.

FINANCE

All the world over prices are rising steeply and because of this the House of Justice urged that all the buildings and land to be acquired under the Nine-Year Plan should be bought during the course of the year. This, along with the historic call for an unprecedented number of pioneers to arise to fill the overseas goals led to the biggest ever budget in our experience; over £22,000. Even this figure had later to be raised by a further £5,400 to meet the actual cost of the Haziratu'l-Quds in British Guiana and the Temple Land in Eire. In the event we did not have to find all this money immediately as some of the capital goals have been carried over. Of an estimated total of £10,700 for all the overseas capital goals, over half has already been paid.

The friends have responded splendidly to the needs of the hour, and have sacrificed nobly to keep the "life-blood" of the Cause flowing strongly. Although direct donations to the National Fund fell short by almost £2,000 of the £10,000 target, less was spent on the Home-front than expected and in the end income just about balanced expenditure. We have been able to support from the National Fund not only the International and European Continental Funds but also the Continental Funds for Africa and South America, a total of £700.

All these heavy demands diverted some attention from the continuing needs of our own Mother Temple in Europe, so perhaps we did well to send to Frankfurt a total from all sources of £1,278, just short of the target of £1,500.

The Ridván message places great emphasis on the Funds. The Universal House of Justice has told the National Assembly that our overseas responsibilities will not diminish as the Nine-Year Plan unfolds, and this means that every believer will be called upon to make continued sacrifices for what is at once a sacred obligation and a glorious privilege.

HAZIRATU'L-QUDS AND NATIONAL OFFICE

Jeanette Robbin of Washington, D.C., who last Ridván was helping voluntarily in the National Office on her way home to the United States from pilgrimage, returned to the British Isles on August 3rd, 1965, and became a permanent and most welcome member of the staff. The volume of work in the National Office has increased tremendously, especially in the field of international co-operation. It is now imperative that we have additional help and at its last meeting of the administrative year, the National Assembly authorised the engagement of a fulltime records and filing clerk. We have been grateful for Claire Copley's voluntary help during the busy Ridván period and preparation for Convention.

TELEGRAM TO H. M. THE QUEEN

One very happy annual responsibility is to send to her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, early in the morning of April 21st, loyal greetings on the occasion of her birthday. Our telegram this year read:

"THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'IS OF THE BRITISH ISLES ON BEHALF OF THE BAHÁ'IS IN THE BRITISH ISLES AND IN THE COMMONWEALTH OFFERS TO YOUR MAJESTY JOYOUS AND LOYAL GREETINGS ON THE OCCASION OF YOUR MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY." The reply received from Buckingham Palace from the Queen's Private Secretary was:

"THE QUEEN SINCERELY THANKS THE BAHÁ'IS IN THE BRITISH ISLES AND IN THE COMMONWEALTH FOR THEIR KIND MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF HER MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY."

PASSING OF JESSIE REVELL

One shadow fell across our path as the joyous Ridván Festival approached, when we received on April 15th the following cable from the Universal House of Justice:

"WITH PROFOUND GRIEF ANNOUNCE PASSING JESSIE

REVELL HER TIRELESS STEADFAST DEVOTION FAITH SINCE BEFORE MASTERS VISIT AMERICAN CONTINENT EARNED LOVE TRUST ADMIRATION SHOGHI EFFENDI CROWNED BY APPOINTMENT INTERNATIONAL BAHÁ'Í COUNCIL DISTINGUISHED BY SERVICE TREASURER BOTH APPOINTED ELECTED COUNCILS STOP URGE NATIONAL ASSEMBLIES HOLD MEMORIAL GATHERINGS TRIBUTE UNFORGETTABLE EXEMPLARY SERVICES FAITH STOP PLEASE AIRMAIL FOREGOING MESSAGE ALL NSA'S EUROPE * UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE."

A Memorial Service was held for dear Jessie at the Grave of the beloved Guardian. The grief felt by her many friends at her passing was tempered by the joyous welcome we knew she would have received in the Abhá Kingdom after such a life of dedicated service.

RIDVÁN MESSAGE TO THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

On April 21st we cabled an interim report to the Universal House of Justice on the position on the Home Front and pioneer movements overseas, and extended to the House joyous Ridván greetings. Their cable reply was:

"APPRECIATE SENTIMENTS DELIGHTED THRILLING NEWS BELIZE SWAZILAND ISLE/MAN TRINIDAD GHANA SPLENDID ACCOMPLISHMENTS HOME-FRONT STOP ASSURE PIONEERS NAMED YOUR CABLE LOVING APPRECIATION FERVENT PRAYERS * UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE."

The last year has been one of tremendous activity on a world-wide scale, from South America on the one hand to the South Pacific on the other. The British Community has grown in experience and in stature. We have been further honoured by the calling of yet another member of this Community to serve at the World Centre, John Wade will be leaving in the summer to take up duties in the service of the Universal House of Justice in Haifa, and he will eventually be joined by his wife, Rose Wade.

Shoghi Effendi in his last letter to the British Community referred to it as "the chief builders of Bahá'u'lláh's embryonic World Order, throughout the unnumbered, the diversified and widely scattered Dependencies of the British Crown." We are beginning to feel the weight of that responsibility which the beloved Guardian laid upon us. The double nature of our task is now clear, on the Home Front we must attract, confirm, and train believers, and from the British Isles we must send out a steady and growing stream of pioneers, who will indeed give their lives to the building of the Kingdom of God.

CHILD EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Child Education Committee extend loving greetings to all Bahá'is, and take this means of introducing themselves, their aims and their achievements to date.

Formed by the N.S.A. in October, 1965, this Committee was allocated responsibility toward the spiritual welfare, and instruction within the Faith, of all Bahá'í children residing in the British Isles, including the Channel Isles, Orkney, Shetland and Hebrides, and Eire. We have an especial responsibility toward Bahá'í children who are in this country and living away from their parents, to see that they are fully included in all Bahá'í activities and that their instruction within the Faith is maintained. If anyone has personal knowledge of names, ages and addresses of these children, perhaps at school in their area, we would be grateful if you would let us know.

'Abdu'l-Bahá has said that children are of the Kingdom... and near to God... "they must be so trained and educated that they shall give light to the world of humanity." "I give you My advice and it is this: Train these children with divine exhortations. From their childhood instil in their hearts the love of God so they may manifest in their lives the fear of God and have confidence in the bestowals of God. Teach them to free themselves from human imperfections and to acquire the divine perfections latent in the heart of man. The life of man is useful if he attains the perfections of man. If he becomes the centre of the imperfections of the world of humanity, death is better than life, and non-existence better than existence. Therefore make ye an effort in order that these children may be rightly trained and educated and that each one of them may attain perfection in the world of humanity. Know ye the value of these children for they are all My children."

To train and to teach children is, in the first place, to guide and to show them—to be an example to them. We, in the Child Education Committee, can only do our task effectively with the co-operation of you on the L.S.A's., and you the parents, who are at first hand the teachers, the examples, of these children of the Kingdom.

Bahá'u'lláh Himself has decreed: "that every father must educate his sons and his daughters in learning and in writing and also in that which hath been ordained in the Tablet. He who educates his son, or any others' children, it is as though he has educated one of My children."

The Committee would like to suggest that all L.S.A's. and groups consider arranging talks to be given to parents, drawing their attention to the fact that the initial education of the child is at all times primarily the concern of the parent. Members of this Committee are quite willing to help out here by

giving talks themselves, when and where requested.

We would welcome, also, the formation of active study groups in all areas to which parents can be encouraged to send their children regularly. Some are already flourishing, we know, and these we would like to hear from—to receive their comments as to what has been found to be of most use to them; in fact, we welcome constructive advice from those already experienced in running classes, so that their knowledge may be of benefit to all. The Committee do have some material prepared for use with classes, in the form of lesson guides, etc.; and we shall be shortly sending out curriculums for child teaching. In the meantime we shall be glad to answer any requests for assistance.

A Teaching Library is available through the Committee: books, teaching materials, and some Bahá'í music, can be requested on loan. Further information concerning books and materials can be had from Mrs. Alicia Cardell, Manor Farm, Gt. Paxton, St. Neots, Hunts. She will also be very pleased to receive any donations of books for the Library from individual believers.

With regard to the arrangement of public meetings, weekend or day schools, the Committee feel that more attention must be given to the welfare of the children attending with their parents. With this in mind the Child Activities Teaching Service has been formed, to be responsible for organising child teaching at these times.

At the same time we put forward a public appeal for all teachers and retired teachers who feel they can offer their services in any way to contact us. There is much work to be done and many hands needed! Also, any of the friends with literary or musical talent who feel they can be of help, please do write to us!

Finally: we are pleased to be able to announce the formation of a children's magazine, "The Little Journal." This will be published every alternative Bahá'í month and circulated to all Bahá'í children. The first copy was sent out at Naw-Ruz. This is a new venture and as such needs your support in the way of contributions; articles of direct interest to Bahá'is, stories giving emphasis to Bahá'í principles, current news items concerning children's activities. These can be sent direct to the editor... Liz. Morley, 6, Morning-side Road, West Derby, Liverpool, 11. Or to your area representative; these being at present, Geoffrey Howes, 33, Morten Crescent, Bradwell, Nr. Gt. Yarmouth, Norfolk: Norman Burroughs, 40, Sheridan Road, Twerton, Bath, Somerset: Lynn Maton, Primrose Lane, Rake, Nr. Liss, Hants. An especial welcome will be given to all letters and contributions from children themselves, and these should be sent to Deborah Maton (address as above).

ASSEMBLY ASSISTANCE TEACHING COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 1965 - 1966

Following the split at the beginning of last year of the English Teaching Committee into two parts, it was possible for greater attention to be given to the stimulation of local assemblies to increased teaching activity by the Assembly Assistance Teaching Committee. Since this was a new committee, with new terms of reference, a great deal of ground work needed to be done, and a complete reassessment of the strength of the local assemblies under our care was made.

Our aim is to help assemblies to develop and extend their teaching activities—we try to provide new ideas—to suggest new avenues; and to this end, during the course of the first meeting a series of teaching plans was worked out to suit various categories of towns where local assemblies are established. This series was augmented in following meetings and every local assembly has been encouraged to undertake at least one, and in most cases two or three plans. One plan was made for use in cathedral cities—another where conditions were favourable for direct teaching to a specific section of the community; we planned to provide the material for these plans—a form of invitation card to a public meeting or large fireside gathering—a specially chosen pamphlet. Some results are already becoming apparent, particularly in regard to increased fireside teaching and, to a lesser extent, inter-community visiting (which is a form of teaching particularly advocated by our committee), but the real results will not begin to show until much later, and we anxiously await reports from those assemblies who have bravely agreed to make the first experiment in new plans. We would like to ask assemblies which have had particular success with teaching plans of their own to pass on to us these ideas, in order that we may circulate them to assemblies where similar circumstances exist. This constant channelling of ideas from one community to another would be a great source of stimulation.

All our plans include the usual ingredients of personal teaching; fire-sides; public meetings; visiting teachers and approaches to the local Press, but with some different slant or approach. We are very conscious of the short time left to us to prepare for Proclamation and it was with this thought uppermost in our minds that we have made our plans throughout the year.

The first meeting was held in June, since when there have been meetings every month except September and December, and also a number of sub-committee meetings. The members of the committee have travelled widely to visit local assemblies where assistance was required. There have also been joint consultations with the New Territories Teaching Committee, the Pioneer Committee, the Southern Youth

Committee and the Northern Youth Committee.

Following the call of the Universal House of Justice for circuit teaching, eight projects were planned, one extensive double tour has already taken place and we shall hope to hear the results of the others before very long.

Extension teaching has continued or has been undertaken from Brighton to Worthing; Eccles to Stretford; Canterbury to Folkestone; Bristol to Bath; Oxford to Aylesbury, Liverpool to Kirkby and Leeds to Horsforth to encourage the growth of further assemblies.

We were very encouraged to learn that about twenty local assemblies celebrated World Religion Day, and would urge assemblies to consult early on the form which their celebrations will take next year, and to make their plans early so that this event, now held throughout the United States of America and Britain, will not only provide a teaching occasion in which we can all join, but will attract local publicity which may be sufficient to attract attention in the national Press.

The function of this committee is to assist local assemblies in their teaching work, and after every meeting at least one letter is sent to each assembly. We would like here to stress that we cannot function properly unless the local assemblies do write to us regularly, to let us know of their needs and their development. It is also appropriate at this point to thank those local assemblies who have kept a constant flow of information to this committee.

We feel a great responsibility—for where there is no teaching, there will be no pioneers, and constantly shall we need to find those who will move to open a goal town, ensure an assembly, and so on. As 'Abdul-Bahá has said: "teachers must continually travel." Our job is constantly to strengthen the foundations on which we build the Administrative Order in this country and we ask the co-operation of all local assemblies so that we shall be successful.

DRAW NIGH UNTO BAHÁ'U'LLÁH

"Illuminate and hallow your hearts; let them not be profaned by the thorns of hate or the thistles of malice. Ye dwell in one world, and have been created through the operation of one Will. Blessed is he who mingleth with all men in a spirit of utmost kindness and love".
Bahá'u'lláh

INDEX BAHÁ'I NEWS

Friends wishing to obtain an Index to American Bahá'i News can purchase Vol. 3 which covers journals dated Jan. 1958 to Dec. 1963 by ordering through our Trust, each priced at 15/- plus postage.

ISLANDS IN THE SUN

No money for the 'Med.'? Then come to Sunny Jersey, Guernsey, or the Isle of Wight. No passports needed. No currency problems... and yet all the thrill of sea or air travel, and joy of a sun-tan. If this appeals to you, don't hesitate. Take the first step now. The Journal has not become a medium for travel-advertising. We are just drawing your attention to the fact that lying off our shores are outposts of the British Bahá'i Community, islands in dire need of Bahá'i visitors.

Teaching work has begun in these places. The valiant pioneers there are busily preparing the soil. But they are going to need a lot of help if we are to reap the required harvest there, the establishing of a local spiritual assembly before the close of the nine-year plan.

During the winter months the Channel Isles are practically cut off from the mainland, and sometimes from each other. How the friends there must look forward to the Summer and the hope of seeing a fellow-believer among the thousands that invade these holiday places.

If you are planning a holiday, why not serve Bahá'u'lláh as well. To do so, contact Mrs. Betty Goode, 8, Knowle Road, Weeping Cross, Stafford.

THE GREAT PRIVILEGE

"We need but glance at the Words of Bahá'u'lláh and the Epistles of 'Abdu'l-Bahá to realize the great privilege of teaching the Cause, its vital necessity, its supreme urgency, and its wide-reaching effects. These are the very words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá:—

"In these days, the Holy Ones of the Realm of Glory, dwelling in the all-highest Paradise, yearn to return unto this world, and be of some service to the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh and prove their servitude to the Threshold of the Abhá beauty."

What a wondrous vision these words unfold to our eyes! How great our privilege to labour in this Day in the Divine Vineyard! Is it not incumbent upon us to arise and teach His Cause with such an ardour which no worldly adversity can quell, nor any measure of success can satiate?"

Shoghi Effendi.

"PRESCRIPTION FOR TEACHING"

Sold out at Teaching Conference! There has been a heavy demand for this small teaching hand-book, based on extracts from the Guardian's writings. We are pleased to announce that more copies are now available, and will be on sale at Weekend and Summer Schools. A bargain at only 6d. per copy. The N.T.T.C. is sending copies to all goal towns and groups.

Lonely believers, no doubt, will endorse our expression of gratitude to Bob Cheek and Brian Dillworth appointed by this committee as travelling visitors, with the special job of keeping contact with Bahá'is living away from communities.

NEW TERRITORIES TEACHING COMMITTEE

PUBLISHING TRUST ANNUAL REPORT 1965 - 1966

Once again the Trust has had an active year, perhaps even more so this year, for as time steadily rolls on we, like other Committees which work for this great Cause, surely find that there is more work and effort required in our endeavours to spread and teach the Faith during this present momentous time. As you all know the Trust endeavours to supply Bahá'í literature of all kinds, for those who are seeking spiritual knowledge, new-comers to the Faith, and those of us who require to be deepened in the Faith. So from time to time, stocks of books, booklets, pamphlets and leaflets have to be replenished by being reprinted and rebound. This new, as well as all the previous stocks, need to be housed somewhere and somebody needs to send off orders to various Assemblies and individuals in this Country and also to overseas Trusts.

Active enquiries and investigations have been made during the course of the year for both a Book shop and also for a Trade counter in order to eliminate the handling of stock at Manchester by Reg Coulson, for whom we have been unable to secure effective assistance. We have been seeking a Trade Counter—that is to say a commercial firm specialising in the distribution of books for publishers—for some years, but our turnover has been insufficient to interest any such firm. However, we have at last managed to find one, and subject to N.S.A. approval we are endeavouring to come to final arrangements with this firm to act for us. Meanwhile we ask the friends and Assemblies throughout the country to continue bulk and individual ordering from our Distribution Manager in Manchester until such time as any new arrangement is announced.

AIDS TO TEACHING

It has been decided to commission the writing of a new series of leaflets and booklets specially designed to meet the teaching needs of the immediate future. The leaflets are intended for giving to new contacts, and each is designed to appeal to a particular kind of contact. The booklets will each deal with an aspect of the teachings, or history of the Faith and are intended for the progressive deepening of contacts; they are designed to form a set which will cover all the basic teachings and history of the Faith. Invitations were sent to quite a number of the friends to write these and we are glad to say that these have resulted in offers and we have accepted for all nine of the booklets and all (except one) of the 6 leaflets. It will, however, be some time before these are ready for printing, for they have first to be written, sent to the N.S.A. Reviewing Committee, and the series edited. We are glad to announce, however, that the script of the first leaflet has just been received and is on its way to the Reviewing Committee.

PUBLICATIONS

As pointed out in last year's report each time we print a new edition, or have a further quantity of books bound, we find that the printers' charges continue to rise. A reprint, presented in a new type of binding of "Hidden Words" is now ready, and we shall be able to maintain a selling price of 4/6d., in the old cloth binding it would have meant a selling price of 10/6d. A quantity of "Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era" has just been bound, and, due to the cost of cloth binding having doubled that on which the previous selling price was based, the new price would normally have been raised from 13/- to 21/6d., but the Trust has decided to make the first 500 available at the reduced selling price of 17/6d.

With regard to the Prayer Book, although we put this in the hands of printers some two and a half years ago, we share your disappointment in that we have not been able to reproduce it yet due to the fact that much time has been taken in carefully checking the wording and authenticity of all prayers to be included. We are at present awaiting new translations for some of them from the Universal House of Justice. Work is in hand to produce in the near future a small Prayer Book for children.

The Assembly Assistance Teaching Committee having decided to use "The Old Churches and the New World Faith" booklets for one of their teaching campaigns, we obtained a new supply for them in offset litho, duplicated by the Bridles in Peterborough—which method of production has enabled us to keep our selling price for these down to 1/6d. each. Many of the friends have asked for our pamphlets to be given more attractive covers, and having recently had to re-print "Economics" and "Progressive Revelation," we have given these coloured covers and they will sell at 6d. each. The leaflet "Questions and Answers" has also just been re-printed for use in teaching campaigns and we are glad to announce that we can maintain for these the price of 10/- for 60. The "Lord is One" priced at 1/- each, and "Another Religion Call Israel Home" priced at 6d. each, are pamphlets we are importing from America and will be suitable as introductory leaflets for Jews (our attention was drawn to these by the Universal House of Justice). "New Way of Life" which tells what it means to be a Bahá'í youth, is also a pamphlet from America and is priced at 2/6d. each.

FINANCE

The broad picture of the financial results of the year to the 20th March, 1966, compared with the previous year, is that Sales are down £500. Two special factors largely contributed to this. Firstly, sales to London were at

least £350 less than usual, as the old London Assembly had been running down stock in order to clear its account with the Trust before it went out of existence, and we would especially like to thank the London Assembly for the efforts it made to do this. Secondly, there was the long delay which has occurred in getting the contents of the Prayer Book approved before it can be reprinted which has resulted in our being out of stock of this, our best selling line, for more than half the year. If these had been available, orders for the Prayer Books alone would in all probability have more than accounted for £300.

It is interesting to note that in relation to gross sales, the prime cost of sales (*i.e.* the books themselves) increased from 48.6% in 1965 to 50.6% in 1966. This reflects the inevitable increase in the cost of paper, printing and binding which the friends must be prepared to expect to continue. The Trust, however, has taken steps to use less expensive binding processes and printing methods in an attempt to hold such increases to the minimum. As in the past it has accepted the risk of holding larger stocks of printed but unbound books (*i.e.* flat sheets) than it would otherwise do, to obtain the benefit of a reduced cost resulting from larger printing runs. Of the remaining trading expenses postage shows the expected increase arising from the Post Office's increased postage rates. The cost of storage of type and books has also risen.

The Administrative expenses remain comparable with last year, but loan interest has been reduced due to the repayment of loans. It will be observed from the Balance Sheet that the Trust has not thought it necessary to add further to the reserve for debts which stands at £750. It is, however, felt to be wise, owing to the comparatively large stocks which we are compelled to hold, and the lengthy period over which they are used, to increase the reserve for stock, depreciation and delapidation by £250 bringing it to £700 and to set aside £250 as a reserve for development costs. The Balance Sheet reflects a moderate increase in liquid funds and the total of assets set aside for the repayment of loans, less repayment to date, represents 46% of the Sundry loans of £916 still outstanding.

Last July the N.S.A. appealed to the Trust to repay all the loans from the N.S.A. which were outstanding in order that the N.S.A. could find the cash to enable the purchase of the Georgetown Hazíratu'l-Quds to be made if our National Secretary could find one when she visited British Guiana. This we were able to do, but we may well need to raise further loan capital in the next two or three years as our expanding publishing programme gets under way.

The friends will have noticed the reduction in the amount of debts due to the Trust in comparison with last year.

FUTURE POLICY

The future policy of the Trust had been a matter of special consideration by the National Assembly during the last two years. Their guidance was given to us towards the end of 1965, as a result of which the Trust has now been able to go forward with the plan for the new series of Leaflets and Booklets to which we have already referred, to the stocking of a wider range of publications by other Trusts, and to a planning of its future financial commitments which together with the greater facilities for distribution, which the use of a Trade Counter will give us, will, we confidently expect, result in a considerable increase in our turnover in the next two years.

In conclusion, we would like to convey our heartfelt thanks to all the friends for their support during the year. And may we repeat our reminder that the written word can continue to teach long after the spoken word is forgotten, so do endeavour to sell and buy these priceless books wherever and whenever you possibly can for the great purpose of furthering the Cause of God.

continued from page four

Norway

15 attending 5th Convention including board member 7 delegates grateful message deeply stirred eagerly studying effective means meeting challenge.

Portugal.

Friends assembled with board members and new body send greetings request prayers.

Spain.

Spanish Bahá'í convention assures faithful adherence U.H.J. grateful presence Ferraby stop request prayers advice achievement goals with true love.

Sweden.

Beloved trustees merciful soul-stirring life giving message God's august infallible institution gladdened hearts board member delegates friends present convention with absolute obedience submission your Holy Presence beseech ardent prayers most Holy Shrines fresh impetus blessings accomplishments Nine Year Plan goals Bahá'u'lláh's Faith.

We also wish to inform the friends of pioneer settlements since our Ridván message. The additional virgin territories which have now been opened are: Dominica, Islas de la Bahia, Mocha, Nunivak Island, Pribilof Islands and Seri Reservation (Sonora State) in the Americas; Bozca Ada and Imroz Island in Asia; Bathurst Island, Groot Eyeland and Tokelau Islands in Australasia; and Aeolian Islands, Ahvenanmaa and Cyclades Islands in Europe.

The additional re-settled territories are: Rio de Oro and Spanish Sahara in Africa and the Isle of Man and Liechtenstein in Europe.

Formation of Local Spiritual Assembly in Paramaribo

The following account being an extract of a report sent to us by Auxiliary Board Member, Anthony Worley, describes the dramatic events which led to the formation of the first Local Spiritual Assembly of Paramaribo. This lays the foundation of one of the essential steps in the establishment of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Guianas.

"On April 15th the Bahá'ís of Paramaribo had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Rangvald Taetz, Auxiliary Board Member, who was passing through on his way to represent the Hand of the Cause, Mr. Jalal Khazeh, at the National Convention of Venezuela, returning to Brazil by way of Columbia and the head waters of the Amazon river, visiting the thriving Bahá'í Communities there. He was with us for two days, when he not only visited the friends individually but also had the opportunity of speaking to some of our contacts on the evening of Saturday, the 16th. The following day he departed for Georgetown. While here, he was interviewed by two of the most prominent newspapers, one of which printed a small article on the front page, headlined, "Bahá'ís will form their Assembly."

It was perhaps an omen, but up to April 20th not another soul spoke up. A meeting was planned for the evening of the 20th (as it would be the 21st, Bahá'í time). All the Bahá'ís were present, as were our contacts. Prayers were read and a few words were spoken, relating these momentous times to the early days of the Christian Era, and the first precious few who were the first to see the dawn of the new day. All in the room became silent, and yet a feeling of harmony and happiness surrounded us. Then Mr. Friedland spoke, and said that if anyone felt they would accept Bahá'u'lláh as God's Messenger for today, now was the time to come forth. In his hands were some declaration cards and of a sudden arms were outstretched and declaration cards were being signed. Not all those present felt they should do so at that time, and with much sincerity said they wished to know more. So it was that four souls that night accepted Bahá'u'lláh; one other gentleman stood up and said that many years ago he had declared himself. "Brothers", he said, "I am also a Bahá'í". Words cannot in any way describe the depth of feeling that all felt from that moment on; voices happily joined each other in expressing their joy of that moment.

Those who accepted the Faith that night were: Mrs. Wilma Franklin (heartily congratulations are in order to Robbie Franklin, for in some mysterious way he helped donate a strong and self-sacrificing pillar to our young community), Zigfried Franklin—the first of our younger generation to embrace the Faith—Mrs. Carla Griffiths, Miss Alma Stoffel and Mr. Antonius Favery. Mrs. Norina then spoke, truly by inspiration,

welcoming the new believers to the world embracing Faith of Bahá'u'lláh, and said that therein she had found universal brotherhood and urged all to study the Teachings, for only through them would we understand God's Will, "even the Bible has become dearer to me now", she said. Mr. Holland then proceeded to read from the Netherlands edition of the Bahá'í Administration as voting lists were being prepared. Prayers were read and the election of Paramaribo's first Bahá'í Local Spiritual Assembly was under way.

This dear friends is only the beginning and we have much, much to learn. So we must strive with wholehearted dedication to the fulfillment of the world-encompassing crusade set forth by that August body, the Universal House of Justice, the touchstone of whose success is the "universal participation" of every declared believer. No matter how incapable we feel we are, that forceful injunction of Bahá'u'lláh should always be brought to mind "Whosoever arises to aid Our Cause, God will render him victorious . . .". Teaching must be the source of our life and pioneering is just another means of teaching. In truth I feel that it is not so much the person who pioneers, but the act of pioneering, in obedience to the request of the Universal House of Justice, that attracts the "Hosts on High" with blessings and victories. Some say pioneering is self-sacrifice but how can it be when one gains so much more than one gives up?"

".....travel to all Parts of the Continent"

Friends are advised that on the islands of Europe there are some Communities, Groups and isolated believers who are in need of contact from any of the friends who are able to visit them. The following suggestions are made, and anyone who feels able to offer to go should write to the undersigned committee so that introductions and addresses can be given.

Holidays may be taken in Corsica, Sardinia, Malta, Rhodes or Cyclades. Friends returning from pilgrimage may be able to call at any of these places without adding greatly to the cost of travel. Visitors from Canada or the United States of America may return via Faroes and Iceland.

This may need a little planning ahead, but the shortest stay in any of these places would render invaluable service to the Cause.

EUROPEAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN
COMMITTEE

OVERSEAS PUBLICATIONS

Friends wishing to purchase literature in other languages as published by Overseas Publishing Trusts, can do so through our Trust which has now obtained price lists of publications relating to the following countries: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Italy, India, Norway, Persia, Uganda and Central Africa.

Special Cash Discount of 20 per cent

ON ORDERS RECEIVED BEFORE THE END OF AUGUST, 1966

Bahá'u'lláh and the New Era	—	Hidden Words	4/6
—cloth cover	17/6	Kitáb-i-Iqán	15/—
—paper cover	9/—	Magnified Be Thy Name	12/—
Bahá'i Faith 1844-1952	3/6	Paris Talks—cloth cover	13/6
Bahá'i Revelation	20/—	—paper cover	11/—
Covenant of Bahá'u'lláh	15/6	Prayers and Meditations	18/—
Dawnbreakers	30/—	Principles of Bahá'i Administra-	
Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh	2/—	tion—cloth cover	11/6
Gleanings from the Writings of	—	—paper cover	7/6
Bahá'u'lláh	17/6	Some answered Questions	18/—
Guidance for Today and	—	Will and Testament of	
Tomorrow	14/6	'Abdu'l-Bahá (Excerpts)	2/—

1. This special discount is for CASH WITH ORDER ONLY.
2. Assemblies and Groups sending cash with order will also be allowed this 20% discount on these books (plus the discount normally allowed them).
3. If stock is exhausted of any of the above books before the end of August then the offer in respect of that book is automatically cancelled .
4. This offer IS NOT extended to orders received from ' Trade ' or other non-Bahá'í sources. This offer IS NOT extended to orders received from Bahá'ís outside the British Isles.
5. If ordering other items at the same time, please make out your order for the above books on A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER.

to stock up on these basic Baha'i books before prices rise again, for last autumn publishing costs rose by 12½% and this January printing wages rose another 6¼% so there is no likelihood of the Trust being able to continue this offer after 31st August.

20% CASH DISCOUNT

It should be noted that the Publishing Trust of the United States does not accept individual orders from this country. Therefore assemblies or friends wishing to purchase literature which is published in the U.S.A., must put their orders through our own Trust, addressed to Bahá'í Publishing Trust, 37 Westbury Road, H. Crumpsall, Manchester. 8.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Asmá' (Names) 20th August, 1966
'Izzat (Might) 8th September, 1966

16th – 18th September, 1966
14th – 16th October, 1966
25th – 27th November, 1966
30th December, 1966 – 1st January, 1967

WORLD RELIGION DAY

15th January, 1967.

9th May, 1966 to 4th June, 1966 (incl.)

[illegible]

Communities contributing:—Belfast, Brent, Burnley, Canterbury, Cardiff, Chester, Eccles, Epsom, Hammersmith, Harringay, Inverness, Leicester, London, Malta, Manchester Youth, Nelson, Newcastle, N. Berwick, Norwich, Oxford, Paignton, Peterboro', Portsmouth, Reading, Romford, Sheffield, Southport, Wandsworth, Westminster, Winchester, Watford.

NATIONAL TREASURER:—

C. Macdonald,
1, Hampton House,
Glenmachan Road,
Belfast, 4.