



BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

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'AMATU'L-BAHÁ RÚHÍYYIH KHÁNUM IN ALASKA



'Amatu'l-Bahá with Hand of the Cause Jalál Kházeḥ at the Summer School in Juneau on the night of her adoption into the Eagle Tribe of the Tlingit Indians. Pictured with her are members of the Tribe, including Mary Brown (at the far right), member of the National Spiritual Assembly of Alaska.

TO THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE WORLD

In order to meet the growing needs of an ever-expanding Bahá'í World Community we have taken two decisions designed to reinforce and extend the services of the Auxiliary Boards.

First, the number of Auxiliary Board members throughout the world is to be raised to two hundred and seventy, of whom eighty-one will serve on the Auxiliary Boards for the Protection of the Faith and one hundred and eighty-nine will serve on the Auxiliary Boards for the Propagation of the Faith. In all there will be fifty-four Auxiliary Board members in Africa, eighty-one in the Western Hemisphere, eighty-one in Asia, eighteen in Australasia and thirty-six in Europe.

Secondly, we have decided to take a further step in the development of the institution by giving to each Continental Board of Counsellors the discretion to authorize individual Auxiliary Board members to appoint assistants. Such authorization does not have to be given to all the Auxiliary Board members in a zone nor does the number assigned have to be the same for all Board members; indeed certain Boards of Counsellors may decide that the present circumstances in their zones do not

require them to take advantage of this possibility. Such matters are left entirely to the discretion of each Continental Board of Counsellors.

The exact nature of the duties and the duration of the appointment of the assistants is also left to each Continental Board to decide for itself. Their aims should be to activate and encourage Local Spiritual Assemblies, to call the attention of Local Spiritual Assembly members to the importance of holding regular meetings, to encourage local communities to meet for the Nineteen Day Feasts and Holy Days, to help deepen their fellow-believers' understanding of the Teachings, and generally to assist the Auxiliary Board members in the discharge of their duties. Appointments may be made for a limited period, such as a year or two, with the possibility of re-appointment. Believers can serve at the same time both as assistants to Auxiliary Board members and on administrative institutions.

It is our prayer at the Sacred Threshold that this new development in the institution of the Auxiliary Boards will lead to an unprecedented strengthening of the Local Spiritual Assemblies throughout the world.

7 October, 1973

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

NUMBERS OF AUXILIARY BOARD MEMBERS BY ZONES –
OCTOBER 1973

	Auxiliary Board for Protection	Auxiliary Board for Propagation
AFRICA		
North-western	3)	9)
Central and East	13) 18	19) 36
Southern	2)	8)
WESTERN HEMISPHERE		
North America	9)	18)
Central America	9) 27	9) 54
South America	9)	27)
ASIA		
Western	9)	18)
South Central	3)	15)
South-eastern	3) 18	15) 63
North-eastern	3)	15)
AUSTRALASIA	9	9
EUROPE	9	27
	81	189

CAUSES OF PHYSICAL AILMENTS

"Your letter of 15 September asking for a translation of a Tablet of 'Abdu'l-Bahá on the causes of physical ailments has been received.

In the compilation known as "Ma'idiy-i-Ásmání" referred to in your letter, only part of this Tablet has been included. You may find its full text in Persian in the "Makátib", Volume II, pages 97–103. There is no available English translation of this Tablet, and the work of our Research Department at this time precludes undertaking its translation. As you know Persian you may of course share the gist of the Tablet with your friends, and if you or others propose to translate it you should be advised that the translation can be circulated among the friends and used as a text of reference only after it has been approved by the World Centre.

The statement in the Memoirs of Habib should be treated as a pilgrim's note. Our Research Department has not come across a Tablet from 'Abdu'l-Bahá in which He states that future doctors will have to find other jobs as they will no longer be needed. . . "

(From a letter to an individual)

1 October, 1973

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

TAKING OF OATHS

In reply to your letter of 12 September the Universal House of Justice refers you to a letter on this subject written on behalf of the beloved Guardian on 11 July, 1956:

"Regarding taking oaths, there is nothing in the Teachings on this subject. As a Bahá'í is enjoined by Bahá'u'lláh to be truthful, he would express his truthfulness, no matter what the formality of the law in any local place required of him. There can be no objection to Bahá'ís conforming to the requirements of the law court whatever they may be in such matters, as in no case would they constitute in any way a denial of their own beliefs as Bahá'ís."

The above direction makes it clear that Bahá'ís may take an oath, if required, on any sacred book. The Universal House of Justice considers that it may be preferable for them to do so on a Bahá'í book, if possible.

20 September, 1973

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

BRITISH BAHÁ'ÍS NEEDED FOR FLANDERS

In view of the great needs of the Faith in the Flemish-speaking part of Belgium we appeal to you to send two pioneers to that area. We are sure you will consult the National Spiritual Assembly of Belgium about implementation of this assignment.

11 November, 1973

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

British Pioneers are particularly needed for Belgium. They must be mature and well-grounded Bahá'ís, and need speak only English. Offers to National Assembly.
NSA

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To all the dearly loved Bahá'ís in the United Kingdom and especially to their National Spiritual Assembly, those "Heroic Generals" of the Divine Plan, on this historic Anniversary.

Beloved Friends,

"Oh to be in England now that the Fiftieth Anniversary of the National Spiritual Assembly is there."

Of course, the poet was talking about April and Riqvân, and not *the Day of the Covenant*; but any love, joy and longing he may have had for the United Kingdom pales into nothingness when compared to the feeling of admiration, love, tenderness and warmth that floods my being whenever I remember England, your shining faces, your kindness and devotion to our Precious Faith.

It was impossible for me not to write on this historic occasion and wish you all a "Happy Birthday!"

It is only fitting that England should be among the very first National Spiritual Assemblies to establish one of the Mighty Pillars of the Universal House of Justice. You have always been in the forefront of our great spiritual conquest of the planet. Your land was blessed by the footsteps of the Master! England was showered with praise for the courageous and energetic part it played in protecting 'Abdu'l-Bahá during those critical days of the First World War. Through the action of the heroes and heroines in that "Blessed Isle" the message was sent from the Holy Land announcing to the world: "'Abdu'l-Bahá is safe". When I think of the months and months the beloved Guardian walked upon the soil of England, the love and admiration he had for the British friends, my own love for you increases by leaps and bounds. I feel that there will never be a satisfactory way to express my appreciation and gratitude to each one of you for your never-failing services to our precious Cause; how you lighted the path for all the National Assemblies in the conquest of Africa!

And, of course, above all, because the sacred remains of the beloved Guardian have "shed imperishable lustre" upon that Island, that nation, that city, to which the hearts of the friends turn, and toward which they journey whenever it is possible to have that special bounty.

'Abdu'l-Bahá, Himself, eulogized in powerful verse the first English believer, Thomas Breakwell. He was Knighted by the British Government. The link that binds that ever-green Island to the Holy Land is constant and uninterrupted. It is a rare pilgrimage from the West that does not have, as part of its programme, a visit to England either en route to or from that "Snow White Spot". Other than the *Centre of the World*, the *Cradle of the Faith*, the *Most Great House*, surely the hearts of all of us look most longingly to England. Our love for you increases with each passing year as the news of your fresh victories reaches us.

Beloved friends, those of you who have been so richly blessed by this downpour of gifts from on high, we hope that each one of you is dedicating every possible hour of his or her life these

The message is also recorded on a cassette, a copy of which may be obtained on loan by any Assembly from their Unit Teaching Committee as soon as copies are made.

MALTA: Mrs Olga K. Mills — Knight of Bahá'u'lláh —

In 1953 dear Olga Mills offered her services as a pioneer to Cyprus or Malta; the Guardian asked her to come to Malta and she followed his wishes. She has been in Malta ever since, praying for the day when the Faith gets firmly established. 1973 brings her to her twentieth year here, the year in which Malta formed its first local Spiritual Assembly.

Olga was ninety-two years old on 24 October and, owing to her age, it was agreed to place her in a home for the elderly, where she is slowly adapting herself. Her many friends, both Bahá'ís and non-Bahá'ís, visit her regularly.

This year the Bahá'í friends celebrated her birthday by taking her for a car drive out into the country, followed by a tea-party

days to the one-year Plan of your National Spiritual Assembly. It is our hope that you are consecrating your lives during the closing months of this special year to the vital task of making certain that every goal of the NINE YEAR PLAN. . . won so gallantly and in the face of so many obstacles. . . is preserved and assured. If endangered, strengthened; if lost, recaptured.

We are rapidly approaching Riqvân 1974 when, together, we shall launch the second great global Plan of our Supreme House of Justice, that "source of all good", "freed from all error", that "sole refuge for a tottering civilisation". This is the second in a "series" of such "Crusades" which the beloved Guardian said would be carried out by the Universal House of Justice until the "Light of Bahá'u'lláh suffused the entire planet".

Let every English believer arise on this glorious occasion and assure the National Spiritual Assembly that the great new Plan of the House of Justice will be launched upon a platform of total victory in every part of the United Kingdom.

I never fail to be thrilled when I read the words which our beloved Guardian, Shoghi Effendi, addressed to those of you in the British Isles. I would like to close this letter of loving appreciation with a reminder of his love and encouragement to you:

"I feel proud of their record of service and the evidences of their noble faith. The Beloved watches over them from the Abhá Kingdom. 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." (*Shoghi Effendi, 20 June, 1942*)

"The unconquerable spirit animating the English believers must ultimately triumph," is his promise to you. With every obstacle you face, he says, "a greater measure of His sustaining grace is poured forth from on high, a more compelling evidence of His all conquering power is evinced." The beloved Guardian assures each one of you of the victory, *every victory*, if only you will arise in this spirit. "His unfailing guidance," he says, "will be vouchsafed to them (the English believers) 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." (*12 June, 1952*).

And finally these words which are even more powerful and fitting today:

"May they, one and all, prove themselves, in the crucial months immediately ahead, worthy of the blessings vouchsafed to them in the past, and of the high destiny which it lies in their power to achieve in the future."

With warmest, tenderest, grateful love,

Hand of the Cause of God
William Sears

P.S. . . .Happy Birthday!

at the Riviera Martinique Hotel, Ghain Tuffieha — a seaside hotel with a wonderful view. She received various gifts from Bahá'í friends, both in Malta and abroad.

She also received a numerous quantity of cards and cables which were read out to her and which she very much appreciated. The happy expression on her face is impossible to describe, but it must be said that she was very touched by the kindness shown to her on this occasion.

She hopes to be able to thank each and everyone for the cards, but, in the meantime, she says to all her well-wishers "Thank you very much for your kind thoughts".

The friends in Malta also wish to thank all those who have so kindly remembered dear Olga on her ninety-second birthday.

DECLARATIONS BY PERSIANS RESIDING IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Acting on advice from the Universal House of Justice, the National Spiritual Assembly has now instructed all local Assemblies not to accept any declarations from Persians, but to refer all such cases to the National Assembly.

TREASURER'S REPORT

It was with deep concern that the National Assembly noted at its October meeting that the rate of donations had fallen behind by £5,000, so that we knew unless there was a dramatic upsurge from the friends in giving to the National Fund, all work could come to a halt by the next National Assembly meeting in November.

At the time of writing this report, 9 November, we are happy to report the good response to the appeals we had to make, and the position at

9 NOVEMBER

is as follows:—

AMOUNT NEEDED FROM DONATIONS FROM 21 MARCH — 9 NOVEMBER	£18,936
AMOUNT DONATED FROM 21 MARCH — 9 NOVEMBER	£18,669

Thus the "gap" has been closed all but £267

(As a contrast it will be recalled that by the end of September the donations should have been £15,500, and were only just over £11,000)

Expenditure during the next few weeks

Again in response to many requests from Bahá'ís all over the United Kingdom we are sharing with you some of the ways which the "lifeblood" will be expended during the next few weeks. This does not cover everything, but the following list is indicative of the more major items of expenditure. The "starred" items are those for which money has to be found.

Secretarial and National Office*	£2,000
Telephone charges*	100
Postage and literature*	500
Journal	500
National Teaching Committee and all Unit Teaching Committees	1,000
Overseas Goals Committee*	1,200
Pioneer Committee*	300
Public Information Committee	650
Audio-Visual Committee	150
Religious Education Advisory Committee	175
Haziratu'l Quds Rates*	480
Haziratu'l Quds running costs*	500
Haziratu'l Quds repair fund	500
Donations to International Fund, the Temple Funds and other special Funds*	1,050

There are many small items not mentioned but all equally important.

IMPORTANT

WE NEED NEARLY £600 EACH WEEK FROM DONATIONS TO KEEP SOLVENT

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



'AMATU'L-BAHÁ RÚHÍYYIH KHÁNUM VISITS ALASKA

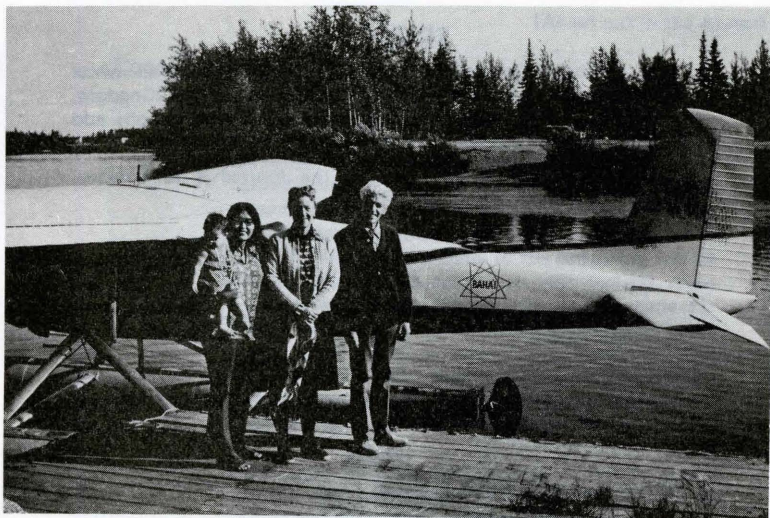
After only a very brief respite following her almost four-year journey through Africa, Hand of the Cause 'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánum left Haifa on 25 July, accompanied by Miss Nell Golden, for a one-month trip of 18,800 air miles to the vast State of Alaska. The magnet that had attracted her half-way round the world was the love of the friends in Alaska, evidenced by the many loving invitations from the National Spiritual Assembly, a letter signed by hundreds of the friends in Alaska in different towns asking her to come, and many individual letters with the same request. Added to this was her own long-standing wish to visit Alaska, and her admiration and love for this community which had achieved its goals early in the Ten Year Crusade and had an exemplary record of service during the Nine Year Plan as well.

The itinerary of 'Amatu'l-Bahá included trips to fifteen different localities, the city of Anchorage having the good fortune of six visits during the thirty-day period. Flying to all points of the compass, she visited Unalaska in the Aleutian Islands chain, Kodiak, Kotzebue (the polar bear capital of the world above the Arctic Circle), Nome, Savoonga (on St Lawrence Island about 75 miles from Siberia), Fairbanks, Nenana, Tanana, Barrow (the northernmost city on the North American continent, 71 degrees 20 minutes north latitude on the Arctic Ocean), Bethel, Juneau, Petersburg, Kake and Wrangell. Although the period of her visit was unavoidably short due to commitments at the World Centre, she had chosen this very extensive and demanding schedule because of her desire to be with the Bahá'ís in the less frequently visited and out-of-the-way localities and her wish to meet members of the native population of the country: the Aleuts in southwestern Alaska, the Eskimos in the coastal Arctic, the

Athabaskan Indians in the interior and south-central area, and the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian Indians in the south-east. While she was in the south-east, during the Summer School, a very special occasion took place which made Rúhíyyih Khánum and the friends very happy indeed — she was officially and ceremonially adopted into the Eagle tribe of the Tlingit Indians. The Indian name given her was Ta-ow-deh-oo (phonetical spelling) which means "Precious Lady", her clan being the shark and her totem the wolf. We were told by National Spiritual Assembly member Mary Brown, into whose family she was adopted, that this was a most significant event, the news of which would rapidly spread to the Indians throughout south-east Alaska, and that the adoption was a fulfilment of Indian prophecy.

Very good publicity was obtained during Rúhíyyih Khánum's stay, including four half-hour television interviews and one three-minute TV interview which was broadcast twice; an hour-long radio programme in the capital city, Juneau, twenty minutes of which was an interview and forty minutes a period of answers to questions telephoned in from the radio audience; two newspaper interviews and a three-column picture and newspaper article in the "Fairbanks Daily News-Miner". In Anchorage, at a reception held in her honour, she had a very cordial and friendly meeting with the Mayor of the city, Mr George M. Sullivan.

At the Summer School in Juneau on 17/18 August, in three lengthy sessions Rúhíyyih Khánum spoke to approximately 215 eager, enthusiastic and attentive friends, many of them youth and young adults, on a variety of subjects, tirelessly answering their questions after each session. She spoke often and strongly on the importance of the Eskimos and Indians



Leaving Fairbanks bound for Nenana. Rúhíyyih Khánum with Sharon Faverty, an Athabascan Indian believer, her daughter, Lua, and Fletcher Bennett.

retaining their roots and not forgetting their past, and urged them to remember and preserve their great heritage, of which they should be so justly proud. A highlight of the Summer School was the almost miraculous achievement of the goal to raise \$20,000 for the National Fund, thereby liquidating the indebtedness incurred by the National Spiritual Assembly to cover the recent teaching efforts of the "Army of Light" for its "massive encounter" programme.

Throughout the trip it was truly heartwarming to feel the great love of the friends for Rúhíyyih Khánum, to see the happiness on their faces and hear their comments of gratitude and appreciation for her presence among them. Wherever she went 'Amatu'l-Bahá showered her love upon the friends, pouring forth from her deep knowledge and understanding of the Faith words of wisdom and guidance which undoubtedly not only increased their understanding of the Teachings but brought their thoughts and views into better perspective and sharper focus.

On many occasions Rúhíyyih Khánum praised the Alaskan Bahá'í Community, referring to it as exemplary, dynamic, vibrant and alive, and a leader in so many fields of service. Her visit surely has inspired them not only to continue in their exemplary path, but to strive to achieve even greater heights in the future. Many times also she stated how much she loved Alaska, the people and the Bahá'ís. Indeed, she left Alaska not only laden with the love of the friends for her but with a heart full of love for them and full of happiness to have had such a wonderful visit in their beautiful state.

HAND OF THE CAUSE OF GOD UGO GIACHERY ATTENDS SUMMER SCHOOL IN DENMARK

A cable received from the Scandinavian Summer School on 2 August reads: "Around 150 believers, 11 countries, highly spiritualized presence beloved Hand Giachery, Mrs Giachery, Counsellor Ferraby, Auxiliary Board Members. Experiencing increased courage promulgation . . . Proclamation Naskov Friday, 4 declarations."

The beloved Hand of the Cause wrote: "Our participation in the Scandinavian Summer School was the source of great joy to us. . . because all those who came (some 150 believers from eleven countries. . .) left with the same feeling of joy and accomplishment. Much maturity is being achieved by the Scandinavian friends and one can see the blossoming of many dedicated 'administrators'. One day was dedicated to a Proclamation in the town of Naskov — in Lolland — with tangible results. After the school, we went to Sweden for a few days and had the pleasure to visit again the dear writer and explorer Sverre Holmsen, whose love and knowledge of the Cause has reached one of the highest levels I have known.

BRAZIL: The National Spiritual Assembly of Brazil joyously reported on spectacular publicity which the Faith has been receiving recently in that country. A magazine which has a wide distribution carried an excellent article covering several pages and illustrated with beautiful coloured photographs of 'Abdu'l-Bahá and of the Bahá'í Holy Places. The article was so well-written and favourable to the Cause that the National Spiritual Assembly is reprinting it to use as a pamphlet.

DAHOMY: A delegation of Bahá'ís was granted an interview with the newly elected President of the Republic on 21 June. His Excellency, Mathieu Kerekou spent forty-five minutes with the Bahá'í delegation.

Following a series of questions about the aims and ideals of the Faith, he promised the friends that he would give them support in their endeavours to gain recognition of the Faith and assured them of his permission to utilize the national radio network with the same degree of frequency granted to other religions if they made application to do so.

The interview with the President was announced on the radio with comments about the nature of the Bahá'í Faith.

GHANA: The local Spiritual Assembly of Kumasi organized a series of six public lectures which were presented for the public at the University of Science and Technology, Kumasi. The talks were given by a Professor at the University who is a believer.

The report from the National Spiritual Assembly reads, "Prior to the talks, about 1,000 copies of locally compiled pamphlets — 'The Harmony of Science, Faith and Reason' — were distributed among the students and members of staff. Every week, also, big posters announcing the talk of the week were displayed on all the Notice Boards in the Campus. On average, about fifty students and members of staff were attending the talks and in some instances the Chairman had to bring the long meeting to a close while there were still more questions.

"These talks were followed by yet another public meeting for free and more informal discussions about the Faith. This meeting was also well attended by the students."

ITALY: The National Spiritual Assembly reports: "Among the many successful presentations in the past year of Italy's 'Bahá'í Theatre', including performances at San Marino, Leghorn and Island of Elba, was one given in a parochial theatre at Scandicci (Florence). . .

"The 'theatre', consisting of young Italian and Persian Bahá'ís, challenged a sizeable audience with tense dialogue and 'shock' slides depicting hunger, war, and racism in the world. Then the protagonist posed the question: 'Do we need a new religion today?'

"At the close of the forty-five minute presentation, the spectators took up the challenge — asking questions, getting Bahá'í answers from the actors, commenting, being provoked to new thought. The discussion at Scandicci went on for nearly two hours. . . A comment from a college student: 'It has been a wonderful evening! When does "il teatro Bahá'í" return?'

IVORY COAST: The 1973 World Conference on World Peace Through Law and World Assembly of Judges was held in Abidjan, Ivory Coast — August 26-31, 1973. Dr Aziz Navidi was asked to attend the Conference as a representative of the Bahá'í International Community. Mr Albert Lincoln of the Central African Republic was also able to participate at the request of the Universal House of Justice. One of the important items on the agenda of this Conference was "Religion and Law".



Rúhíyyih Khánum with the friends in Barrow, upon her arrival at the airport. Left to right: David Baumgartner, Phillip Dunne, Carolyn Baumgartner, Tom Baumgartner, Becky Baumgartner and Dottie Baumgartner.

A report which has been received on the Conference is thrilling. Contact was made with the Secretary-General of the Centre for World Peace Through Law, Judge William S. Thompson. The Judge, when asked if the Bahá'ís might have an opportunity to present the Bahá'í viewpoint, indicated that permission could only be granted by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Ivory Coast.

Dr Navidi met with Chief Justice Boni, of the Ivory Coast, who had not heard of the Bahá'í Faith but was most friendly and interested. He agreed to allow time for a statement to be offered at a reception. The Bahá'í speaker would immediately follow the presentation of the Head of State!

Literature which had been prepared for the attendees made no mention of the Bahá'í Faith, but listed Islám as the latest religion, and attributed many Bahá'í teachings to it. Therefore, the Bahá'í representatives were most eager to remedy this dearth. The Director of the newspaper FRATERNITE, the only daily in the Ivory Coast was contacted. The editor agreed to print a statement made by the Bahá'í representative, if, indeed, he was allowed to speak. There seemed to be still much doubt, as the programme had been announced and confirmed long before. The Director of the paper remembered 'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhíyyih Khánúm and said that he tried very hard to make the Bahá'í Faith known to the public through his paper.

On the promised evening, over two thousand Ministers of Justice, judges, lawyers and law professors from over one hundred countries were gathered at the University of Abidjan on the invitation of the Governor of the Ivory Coast. As soon as Judge Boni had presented the message of the Head of State, he introduced the representative of the Bahá'í Faith, Dr Navidi, who thus was able to deliver the Message of Bahá'u'lláh to this distinguished and influential gathering of jurists.

On the third page of the daily newspaper a two-column photograph of Dr Navidi was printed along with the entire text of his address to the assemblage.

On Tuesday, 28 August, Mr Lincoln spoke to the study session on revision of the United Nations charter, informing the participants about the teachings in the Faith which ordain a World Commonwealth. He spoke about Bahá'í support of the United Nations around the world, and of the influence our Faith has on the individual to prepare him to work toward the creation of a sense of world community on which world peace will be built.

On the same day Dr Navidi presented the Bahá'í views to a session devoted to the strengthening of the International Court of Justice.

Aside from the marvellous presentation of the Cause in the sessions of the Conference, these two able representatives also met and became friendly with many of those attending. They were able to distribute a great deal of Bahá'í literature which was, in general, well and warmly received.

EDITORIAL

The Editorial Committee would welcome black and white photographs of Bahá'í activities throughout the United Kingdom, which should be glossy and well contrasted. Photographs add interest to print and we can only publish what is sent to us.

The deadline for the next issue of the Journal is 10 January. Material should be sent to the Editor:

Lois Hainsworth (Mrs)
"Treen",
Allerton Park,
Leeds LS7 4ND.

BAHÁ'Í NEWS

Due to the rise in cost of postage and the change in the exchange rate of the dollar, it is regretfully necessary to increase the annual subscription rate to:-

£1.55p

Will all subscribers please NOTE!

Subscriptions through:

E. Richards,
26 Cartright Road,
Four Oaks,
Sutton Coldfield.

The United Kingdom correspondent for The Bahá'í News is
Ted Cardell,
Manor Farm,
Great Paxton, St. Neots, Hunts.

He would be happy to receive news items for despatch to the Bahá'í News. Wherever possible these should be accompanied by glossy half plate black and white photographs.

PIONEERS

Would any pioneers visiting this country please consider informing the Overseas Goals Teaching Committee of their visits and if they are willing to go to local communities in the area to share their experiences, and speak of the joys of pioneering.

O.G.C. Secretary: Mrs Elsie Bowers,
65 Sandown Road,
Wavertree,
Liverpool, 15.

NOTICES

BIRTHS

MARRIAGES

18 August 1973:	Catherine Sheppard to Khosrow Taheri, in Wokingham.
8 September 1973:	Pamela Gagg to David Donnelly (not a Bahá'í), in Portsmouth.
13 September 1973:	Maira Long to Rodney Elkington (not a Bahá'í), in Portsmouth.
29 September 1973:	Susan Smith to Peter Wain, in Scunthorpe.

ودر لوح ابن اصدق نازل قوله الاصلی :

ادای حقوق بر کل فرض است و حکمش از قلم اعلی در کتاب نازل و ثابت و لیکن
انظار و اصرار ابد اجازت نه به نفسی متوقف شود بر ادای آن بروج و ریحان برساند مقبول
است و الا فلا از بابت تذکر کبار باید عموماً در مجلس ذکر می بشود و بس نفوس متقنه
ثابت بصیر خود اقدام نمایند و با امر و امن لدی الله عامل میشوند نفع این قهره بخود آن
نفوس راجع آن الله غنی عن العالمین . انتہ

TEACHING CONFERENCE

5/6 January, 1974

Queen's Hall – University of Leicester – Students Union Building

PREPARING FOR THE NEW GLOBAL PLAN

“Be not careless of the virtues with which ye have been
endowed, neither be neglectful of your high destiny....”
Bahá'u'lláh

Teaching Conference will be held at Leicester during Saturday
and Sunday, 5/6 January 1974, in the Queen's Hall, University
of Leicester, Students' Union Building.

The University is near to the centre of the town, within walking
distance of the Midland Railway Station, and there are hotels in
the vicinity.

There will be plenty of time for consultation and there is a session
for all the entries to the Arts Festival Competition for Teaching
Aids, with the winners from the Youth Winter School and Arts
Festival, Wiston.

The opening Devotional will be at 1.30 pm on Saturday,
5 January, but, in the morning of that day, from 11.30 am, the
Audio-Visual Committee will be present to demonstrate the use
of the teaching material which is available to the community.

The Religious Education Advisory Committee will organise
sessions for the younger children and volunteers to help will be
most welcome. The children's activities will be in the Percy Gee
Building adjacent to the Students Union on the first floor in the
Television Room and the Green Room.

The Book Stall and the Sales Department Stall will be housed
in a room adjacent to the Queen's Hall.

TEACHING CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Saturday – 5 January

Afternoon: 1.30 pm. Opening Devotional.
2.00 pm. Opening of Conference by the
Chairman of the National Assembly.
The National Plan – Consolidation
and Goals.
3.45 pm. – 4.15 pm. (Approx.) The National Fund.
Consultation.
5.30 pm. Close of Session.
Evening: 7.30 pm. – 8.30 pm. Display of Teaching Aids –
the Arts Festival winners.
8.30 pm. – 9.30 pm. Session for the Institution
of the Hands of the Cause
of God.
Followed by closing music
and Devotional.

Sunday – 6 January

Morning: 10.00 am. – 10.15 am. Devotional.
10.15 am. – 12.00 noon. The National Plan –
Expansion and Con-
solidation.
12.00 noon – 12.30 pm. Closing the Gaps – Pioneer
appeal.
Afternoon: 2.00 pm. – 3.00 pm. Session for the National
Assembly
3.00 pm. – 4.30 pm. Open Forum – “The Work
of the Committees”.
All questions answered.
4.30 pm. – 5.00 pm. Close of Conference by
Chairman of the National
Assembly.

Closing Devotional.

Decide to attend Teaching Conference NOW!

This is your opportunity to get your batteries RECHARGED in
readiness for the eagerly awaited new GLOBAL PLAN!

This is your opportunity to meet the friends from all parts of
the United Kingdom – to consult together and bring your ideas
for all to share!

Let us make this a Teaching Conference from which those
present will be encouraged to go forth and redouble their
efforts in whatever field of the Cause they are able to serve!

Yá Bahá'u'l-Abhá
National Teaching Committee

LEICESTER HOTELS

Key to Facilities

- A – Central Heating

B – Foreign languages spoken by staff.

C – Children taken

D – Baby-sitting service

E – Pets taken

G – Facilities for handicapped persons.
- J – Garage

K – Parking Space

L – Near Victoria Park
& University

Name, Address, Telephone	No. of Rooms	Bed/ Breakfast	Facilities
Belmont Hotel, De Montfort Street, Tel: 24177	36S 19D	3.70S 6.40D	ABCEGKL
Midland Hotel, Princess Road, Tel: 22097	54S 20D	3.95S 7.40D	ACEGKL
Alexandra Hotel, 342 London Road, Tel: 703056	19S 6D	2.60S 4.75D	ACEKL
Daval Hotel, 292 London Road, Tel: 708234	6S 7D	2.60S 4.50D	CGKL
Knighton Lodge, 5 Knighton Park Road, Tel: 703501	14S 6D	2.50S 5.00D	ACDELK
Rowans Hotel, 290 London Road, Tel: 705364	7S 6D	2.25S 4.50D	ABKL
St Albans Hotel, St Albans Road, Tel: 22002	31S 5D	2.50S 4.50D	ACEGKL
Stoneycroft Hotel, Elmfield Avenue, Tel: 706067	15S 7D	2.00S 4.00D	ACEFGKL
Burlington Hotel, Elmfield Avenue, Tel: 705112	12S 7D	2.20S 4.40D	ACEKL
Tranby Hotel, Elmfield Avenue, Tel: 708119	23S 6D	2.50S 4.80D	ACEKL
Croft Hotel, 3 Stanley Road, Tel: 703220	20S 10D	2.20S 3.50D	ACDEFKL
Prebend Hotel, Prebend Street, Tel: 22181	7S 6D	1.95S 3.50D	ACK

All prices plus VAT.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS' EXPENSES

The NSA welcomes the spirit of sacrifice by which some
committee members do not claim travel expenses, etc., and
hopes that it will continue. This does not mean that a member
should feel under any pressure or obligation to bear their own
expenses as a committee member when they can ill afford it.
It is a matter of personal conscience. Where full travel expenses
are claimed a maximum of second class rail fare can be claimed,
whatever the method of travel, rail or car. Where it seems
necessary to use a car for the journey, e.g. when heavy packages
or equipment are to be carried, and it is desired to claim a hire
car allowance, NSA approval must be obtained in advance, in
which case a maximum allowance of three and a half pence
per mile may be claimed.

AUDIO-VISUAL COMMITTEE

The Audio-Visual Committee has been asked by the National Assembly to design and construct an inexpensive mobile display unit for use at public functions. If this is successful several identical copies will be built and made available in different parts of the country at the same time. As there may be many professional people in the country able to offer suggestions and advice in this connection we would like them to communicate with us with a view to consulting on their suggestions.

Various communities have been producing posters and other display material which we consider below the required standard and we request that all material of this sort be sent to our committee for review before production.

Many friends have made tape recordings of talks at various meetings, schools and other gatherings. Our committee has facilities for copying tapes, either in spool or cassette form, and the request has been made by many friends for these to be made available for loan to communities. We would like to do this and ask these friends to lend us their tapes which will be returned to them in perfect condition after being copied.

We would very much like to know of early believers who have personal recollections of important events in the early days, who have had contact with central figures in the Faith, other important people in the Faith and who have personal stories concerning important events and interesting incidents. We would like to record these on tape for the Archives.

Several communities who have borrowed films, programmes of slides and film strips have not paid the amounts due for their loan in spite of several reminders; have been slow in returning the films, tapes and other material borrowed in time so that communities who have reserved these programmes for their own use at a later date have been let down at the last moment. We may be compelled to make communities requesting programmes pay in advance for the hire and also to list them as unsatisfactory borrowers if they do not return the films in time.

Cheques and postal orders must be made payable to the National Assembly, not to the Audio-Visual Committee nor to 'Sue' Benatar. These should be sent to:—

'Sue' Benatar,
65 Avon Drive,
Bedford.

SUTTON COLDFIELD

Owing to a serious situation which has developed in Sutton Coldfield, the National Spiritual Assembly has suspended the local Spiritual Assembly. A local teaching committee has been appointed to conduct the affairs of the community for the time being.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Secretary: Miss Jean Harper
c/o 27 Rutland Gate
London, S.W.7.

The committee would like to thank those communities which have sent in their publicity reports. These are extremely helpful — please continue sending them in. **WE URGE ALL COMMUNITIES TO DO SO** — together with cuttings from your local newspapers, giving the date and name of the paper with each cutting.

IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR PUBLICITY, OR KNOW OF ANY APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITIES WHICH WE SHOULD FOLLOW UP, PLEASE INFORM THE PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE. APPROACHES TO ALL NATIONAL MEDIA MUST BE MADE BY A NATIONAL COMMITTEE, SO YOUR HELP IN THIS RESPECT IS INVALUABLE. Please get in touch with us as soon as you have any relevant information.

THE FUND

There are three ways to make contributions to the FUND

1 Directly to the National Treasurer:—

Mrs Betty Goode
8 Knowle Road,
Stafford
Tel: Stafford 62157

2 By Bank Giro, directly to the Bank, which is

The National Westminster Bank
186 Brompton Road,
London SW3

Our account no. is 18188443

3 By Post Office Giro. Our number is 43 301 4008

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- A All cheques and postal orders should be made payable to 'NSA of the Bahá'ís; please **NOT** to 'Betty Goode'.
- B They should be crossed.
- C It is not wise to send paper money or any money through the post unless it is registered.
- D Receipts are sent automatically for money sent directly to the National Treasurer, unless the donor specifically requests that one not be sent. With the increasing numbers of friends, it helps the Treasurer if a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed for the receipt. It really does save much work and is greatly appreciated. Receipts are not issued for Giro payments.

PAYMENTS BY COVENANT

These are handled by

Mr John Morphew
Caerleon,
Norris Grove,
Park Lane,
Broxbourne,
Hertfordshire

Please contact him directly.

FOR THE PERSIAN FRIENDS

Huqúq'u'lláh payments are handled by

Mr John Long
2 South Street,
Oakham,
Rutland.

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

We are very happy to report that, despite many difficulties, the follow-up for the 'Islands '73' project is now under way. Mrs Joan Giddings is already in Orkney and we have received other offers and financial aid which are now being organised by the Travel Teaching Department. However, we need to keep a steady flow of teachers going to ALL the Islands. Can you go? Can you help to send someone in your place? Do you have any holidays left which can be used in this way? If you think that you may be able to help, please contact the National Teaching Committee.

Exciting plans are in progress and will be announced by the Youth Department. The National Spiritual Assembly has given the Youth of the United Kingdom a Three-Year Youth Campaign and the Youth Department will be releasing the details.

The Travel Teaching Department, as well as helping with the 'Islands '73' follow-up, is also involved in organising individual projects for those people wishing to travel teach outside their unit and they would welcome many more offers from the friends.

In Wales wonderful results have come following the gathering together of all the friends during the visit of Counsellor Mrs Betty Reed and Fiona Dunne. Three declarations were made, two from Newport and one from Cardiff; we hope to hear of many more new believers. Much of the effort was concentrated on Llanelli and this included a week-long exhibition, press

articles, advertisements and posters round the town. At the weekend concert Bahá'ís came from every corner of Wales including nine from Bangor in the North. During the annual weekend school at Coleg-y-Fro the Welsh friends were able to consult together and made plans for teaching in Llanelli and Aberystwyth which will keep them busy until Teaching Conference. Surely here we see the fruits of universal participation.

Many of us have now been to our unit conferences and have become involved in local activities spurred on by the local newsletters which are now beginning to appear. The National Teaching Committee has been very happy to learn of the plans being made by each unit and in order to be more aware of what is going on in every corner, members of the NTC are travelling to consult with each unit. We are looking forward very much to Teaching Conference in Leicester and we hope that there we will all share news of the new developments which have taken place as a result of the benefit of the new committee structure.

Dearest friends, we send our deepest love to you all and ask you to share this guidance from 'Abdu'l-Bahá:—

"Do not look at your weakness, nay, rely upon the confirmation of the Holy Spirit. Verily, it maketh the weak strong, the lowly mighty, the child grown. . . and the small great."

SECRETARIES OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEES

ARCHIVES AND LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Mr Redhwan Moqbel,
222 Randolph Avenue,
London, W.9.

AUDIO-VISUAL COMMITTEE

Miss Elizabeth Rodriguez,
75 Chiswick Village,
London, W.4.

Sales Department

Mr John Reeve,
44 Highbank Road,
Westdene,
Brighton.

BAHÁ'Í PUBLISHING TRUST

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

GUARDIAN'S GRAVE COMMITTEE

Mr Farhang Afnan,
1 Wykeham Hill,
Wembley Park,
Middlesex.

HAZÍRATU'L-QUDS COMMITTEE

Mrs Margaret Mitchell,
27 Rutland Gate,
London, S.W.7.

JOURNAL EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

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

LONDON BOOK SALES COMMITTEE

Mrs Margaret Mitchell,
27 Rutland Gate,
London, S.W.7.

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

Mr Kenneth Goode,
8 Knowle Road,
Weeping Cross,
Stafford.

Teaching the Blind Department

Mr Oliver Christopherson,
48 Western Hill,
Durham.

Travel Teaching Department

Miss Pamela Poulter,
30 Victoria Road,
Kingston upon Thames,
Surrey.

Youth Department

Miss Hazel Mossaia,
129 Waverley Road,
Harrow,
Middlesex.

OVERSEAS GOALS COMMITTEE

Mrs Elsie Bowers,
65 Sandown Road,
Liverpool, 15.

PERSONAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Mrs Mardi Robinson,
"The Flat", 4 Pembroke Villas,
The Green,
Richmond, Surrey.

PIONEER COMMITTEE

Mr Robert Smith,
53 Riddlesdown Road,
Purley,
Surrey.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Miss Jean Harper,
36 Coombe Gardens,
Ensbury Park,
Bournemouth.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mr Stephen Lambden,
20 Fiant Road,
Royal Tunbridge Wells,
Kent.

REVIEWING COMMITTEE

Dr Abbas Afnan,
27 Recreation Ground,
Stansted,
Sussex.

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITIES

BEDFORD: Eve Boswell was "Top of the Bill" at an International Concert held at the Civic Theatre, Bedford, on Thursday 15 November, and presented by the Bahá'ís of Bedford to mark the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights. The programme was compered by Philip Hainsworth who welcomed the audience of about 110 and introduced Mrs Constance Metz, the Secretary of the local branch of United Nations Association, who spoke about the United Nations Organisation and Human Rights. (The NSA directive as regards non-association with UNA arrived after arrangements with Mrs Metz had been made).

The artists in the first half of the programme were Adrian Byron Burns, singer and guitarist, the Dawnbreakers who sang original Bahá'í songs, and Lois Hainsworth, singing songs of different countries accompanied by Sylvia Schulman. All the items were warmly received, particularly Eve Boswell's dynamic forty-five minute programme in which she sang and played the clarinet and was accompanied by the Kenneth Lewis Trio.

Although a great deal of effort had been put into the organisation and publicity, a newspaper stoppage followed by a strike during the two week period before the concert prevented the hoped-for photographs and pre-publicity appearing in the Press. The wide dissemination of circulars plus paid advertising did not bring the public response that had been expected. The Bedford friends are very grateful to Bahá'ís from other communities in the unit who accounted for quite a number of the audience. However, at least half the total were non-Bahá'ís.

CHEADLE AND GATLEY: Our One-Day School was held on 21 October, at the Public Hall in Heald Green, and was well attended by friends from the region. In the afternoon Philip Hinton gave an eloquent and animated talk on the theme of the school, "The Changing World". This was preceded by Adam Thorne showing his beautifully compiled slide-show. Quite a few enquirers came to the evening social, the highlight of which was a highly dramatic performance of their latest show by the "Valley of Love", which blended perfectly with the theme of the school and gave it its "final touch". The school was well publicised with posters around Cheadle, and we know that the name of the Faith has been noticed by a large number of people.

CRAIGAVON: Our community has been much blessed since we formed our Spiritual Assembly just before Ridván. Publicity in this area has been very varied and widespread. Main events have been the visit of Ramin and Tawfiq, joy-spreading students from Persia and Egypt, via Scotland. Their visit gave us publicity in the way of an article, photo and a brief accurate mention of the Faith.

Then Maxine Lethbridge of Craigavon and Jim Bradley, of Stornoway, were married and publicity this gave us was and is still truly amazing. The two local papers (40,000 circulation at least) each held a photograph and a written paragraph. Many strangers approached them in the streets and gave their congratulations weeks afterwards. The Irish have long memories!

This all led up to our Project of which we give a brief resumé. The Summer Project began in Craigavon on Saturday 17 August with a deepening weekend, "Teaching the Cause of God". Mary Kouchezkadeh and Beman Khosravi, Auxiliary Board Members, guided the discussions at which were present Bahá'ís from a wide variety of countries.

An Exhibition, depicting the history, central Figures, Teachings, Laws, Administration, the growth of the Faith, the Proclamation of Bahá'u'lláh and the Houses of Worship — very comprehensive — was opened on Tuesday 20 August in a shop fairly centrally placed in Portadown. It was built very artistically and professionally, principally by Barry Watson and Les Gornall. This was an attraction which encouraged many different people to investigate the Faith and ran for four weeks.

Hand in hand with the Exhibition went street teaching which, although at times seemed discouraging, did produce many valuable contacts.

Prayer played an enormous part in our activities. On the two occasions of twenty-four hour vigils we had amazing results, bringing several very close contacts. Prayers were said at the Exhibition every morning and at various intervals during the day in a nearby flat. Regular firesides, three times a week, were fun, interesting and did bring non-Bahá'ís. A picnic for Bahá'ís was relaxing and two concerts, with main attraction Ted Edwards from Eccles, but supported by very talented local non-Bahá'ís and Bahá'ís, drew quite a number of the local populace, despite the dislike of venturing out at night.



Eve Boswell as she appeared at the Bedford concert.

Every Sunday an analysis of the previous week's activities was held and proved very helpful. We were also graced with a reply to our request for prayers at the Holy Threshold — "Please convey Bahá'ís Craigavon assurance prayers Holy Shrines Divine Confirmation devoted labours."

Finally, we had two public meetings in the towns of Lurgan and Portadown respectively. Speakers were Ken Elsmore (New Zealand) and Beman Khosravi (N.I.). Large crowds were not forthcoming, but, nevertheless, the meetings taught us some helpful lessons. Publicity was extensive and we feel that Craigavon has now heard of Bahá'í.

We are especially grateful for the generous hospitality given by Deborah Morgulis and Wendy and Jean at their respective homes, to those many who came and supported us. Craigavon Community would like to thank profoundly all those who gave the time and thought to aid us. We needed your confidence and it was forthcoming. Thank you!

LEICESTER: A Memorial Service for Hand of the Cause John Ferraby was held in Leicester at the home of one of the friends on Sunday afternoon 7 October, at which friends from Oakham attended. It was recalled how John Ferraby used to be a regular visitor to Leicester before the goal of an Assembly was achieved there. He also came to many One-Day Schools which were held at the Centre when it was in New Walk, Leicester. Also we remembered his visits to the Teaching Conferences held in Leicester, and how his inspired talks used to be so enjoyed. The Community of Leicester join with all other communities in passing on our sympathy to Dorothy and Bridgitte Ferraby on their sad loss.

LINCOLN: Our community is happy to announce that the Bishop of Lincoln, the Right Reverend Kenneth Rishes, has accepted a copy of "THE PROCLAMATION OF BĀHĀ'U'LLĀH" at a meeting with Board Members Joan and Ernest Gregory and Rose Alexander and Cristine Byrd from Lincoln, in the Bishop's House. We were well received and discussed with the Bishop all aspects of our Faith. At his request, Joan read a prayer, and, as we left, he presented us all with a written prayer.

LEEDS: Our University Bahá'í Society is safe! At the end of last term it was feared that the Society might be forced to lapse as there must be three Bahá'ís within the university to maintain the constitution, and only Margot Chilcott (née Riddell) was left. An urgent appeal to students not yet settled on a university was made and Chohre Yussefian responded and came to Leeds. A coloured pamphlet was put into every "fresher's" information envelope and this resulted in a few students attending the first meeting. One of these, Beth Gould, declared very soon afterwards, thus safeguarding the Society for another year. A weekend school is planned by the Assembly for February 16/17.

ORKNEY ISLANDS: For seven weeks during the summer an intensive teaching campaign was in operation in the Orkney Islands. Teams of six offered their time and love to teach in those islands, sometimes walking all day in pouring rain in order to bring our precious Faith to homes in outlying districts.

Victor and Veronica Priem from Ripon with their daughters, Fiona and Becky, together with some of the local believers,

visited every house in an area called Orphir, approximately seven miles square, inviting all to a meeting on the Faith. At the same time another team, comprised of Nicky White from Oakham and Ruth Smith from St. Andrews, who were later joined by Fiona Priem and some of the local friends, spent two weeks in the northern Orkney island of Westray where the same pattern of teaching was done. As most people in the island were Baptists, Plymouth Brethren or members of the United Free Church of Scotland, this venture was quite fiery at times! One of the ministers said he would forbid anyone coming to our meeting and to this end he nearly succeeded. Every house in the island was visited and literature left with most families. The campaign ended in a public meeting and it is hoped a return visit can be made soon.

After a month a second team arrived to relieve the first. This team was made up of Vivien and Rita Bartlett and baby from Newport, Jackie Brown from Manchester, Rona Bruce from Dundee, Terry Pickles from Reading and Ruth Smith (who stayed for the whole seven weeks).

A musical group was formed which was given wide publicity in the local paper — a photograph and long article being printed about the team and the Teachings of Bahá'u'lláh. All the council houses in Kirkwall were visited and a very successful show was held with seventeen new enquirers. At the same time every house in another country district called Stenness was visited, ending in a show in a local community centre, although sadly nobody from Stenness came.

This was followed by a visit to the school hostel where children from the outlying isles come to live at the age of 12–18 in order to attend the grammar school in Kirkwall. Approximately one hundred children plus several teachers were present and as well as songs a short talk on the Faith was given and the Bahá'ís were very warmly received.

The results of this campaign have been widespread proclamation both generally and on a personal basis, several new enquirers and three declarations of faith in Bahá'u'lláh.

Our hope is to reach every household and it would not take many of us to do this. We are eternally indebted to all the friends who made such sacrifices to come up to help and pray that the spiritual wave which they have generated will be sustained by continuous visits — and above all else continuous prayers that the destiny of these islands as envisaged by our beloved Shoghi Effendi will soon be realised. We do need your help.

READING: Mr Mathew Frere-Smith, the well-known sculptor, gave an inspiring talk on "Space" at Kendrick Girls School, Reading, on Saturday 29 September. He explained how, from the sculptor's point of view, infinite space of the universe and the world of the spirit can be translated and expressed into the finite material form of a sculpture.

He quoted from Bahá'í writings to elucidate the concept of infinite and spiritual space and its relationship to mankind and the universe, and ably answered many questions from the audience including those from a number of delightful young men from a local boarding school.

Mr Frere-Smith took the place of Bernard Leach, C.H., C.B.E., aged 86, at short notice; Mr Leach was unfit to travel from his home in St Ives to give his advertised talk on "Truth and Beauty". The meeting was chaired by Robert Watkins, and at its conclusion he invited those interested to hear a recorded talk by Bernard Leach to join him at 85 Christchurch Road, Reading.

SCUNTHORPE & HEYWOOD: These two areas were joined by the celebration of marriage between Mr Peter Wain of Gunness, near Scunthorpe, and Miss Susan Smith of Heywood. The ceremony took place in the newly-opened Scunthorpe Community Centre, in the presence of over forty guests, who were relatives and friends, many of whom were Bahá'ís. Publicity was obtained in three newspapers — an article in the Heywood paper, an article and photograph in the Scunthorpe paper, and also in the County Edition of the Lincolnshire Times, a photograph and article appeared on the centre front page. In all, forty-three inches of column space was given to this event.

SCUNTHORPE: After the success of the Bahá'í Exhibition at Scunthorpe Family Weekend in June, two small advertisements appeared in the local paper. Then in August a 'Bahá'í Activity' report appeared, giving future events, including the showing of Adam Thorne's "Spectrum" audio-visual show, which was given in the main hall of a new inter-racial Community Centre; the Warden knows a great deal about the Faith and is always very co-operative. Despite considerable advertising, only nineteen people came to the show, but we know that many people were curious about this word "Bahá'í" which they had seen advertised.

In the same community centre, on 22 September, an Open Day Exhibition was held, with about forty local organisations taking part. The Warden asked us to put on something about the Faith, specifically requesting "Spectrum" to be included. This day culminated in an inter-racial concert, organised by one of the Scunthorpe Bahá'ís at the request of the Warden, at which Bahá'í artists Michael Cooper and Lois and Zarin Hainsworth sang and danced. Later this year, arrangements have been made for a Bahá'í tree-planting in Scunthorpe, which will be a very permanent and tangible teaching aid.

SOUTHPORT: Great efforts were made to publicise our event on 8 September, including the sending out of many invitations. We had hoped to have a table in the Burton Arcade to assist our street teaching, but unfortunately one of the tenants objected and so this was not possible. Our public meeting was held in the YMCA and was addressed by Joe Foster, of Kendal, who gave an excellent talk which held the attention of the audience of between thirty and forty people. One declaration resulted, which made it all worth while.

SWINTON: Our celebration of the Birthday of the Báb drew friends from Manchester, Eccles and Heywood to a slide show given by Lois Hainsworth. Entertainment was provided by the Swinton friends. The following day we held a One-Day School and thanks to a number of wonderful talks given by Dr Haqjoo, Mr Hellaby, Dr Hallam and Mrs Maginsky, it was a great success. Attendance was small, but the quality was high, and those who had attended left feeling it had been well worth while. The local newspaper reported the event and their headline read "Celebration of Báb's Birthday".

WAVENEY: A successful teaching project took place at a Medieval Faire in Barsham, Suffolk. It was primarily a crafts faire which consisted of a craft-market situated in a delightful meadow. Many traditional amusements were also to be found. All the friends agreed that the atmosphere of the faire was beautiful and extremely conducive to teaching. Over thirty thousand people attended the faire over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Friends from Peterborough, Kent, Richmond, Norwich, Northampton, Ilford and Newmarket helped to man a small marquee which housed a very simple exhibition expounding the stations and writings of the Báb, Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá. Large colourful photographs of the Holy Shrines were displayed to great effect. A comprehensive collection of books and pamphlets was also displayed, many of which were purchased by non-Bahá'ís. In the evenings a camp fire was built and many people came and joined in the 'Firesides'. Throughout the days and evenings four young Bahá'í musicians, from Kneller Hall Army Music Academy, and the Waveney Bahá'ís presented the Faith through music. These musicians were invited by the organisers of the Faire to perform on the main stage. An audience of about 200 joined them in a chorus of unity which continued for twenty minutes. Waveney Bahá'ís thank all who supported.



Some of the friends who helped at Waveney.

WOKINGHAM R.D.: On Saturday, 18 August, Catherine Sheppard and Khosrow Taheri were married by the Bahá'í ceremony in the Sheppards' garden in Remenham, which is surrounded by beautiful views. Over 150 guests were present, many of whom were non-Bahá'ís, and the wedding was reported in five local papers with photographs and articles about the Bahá'í marriage ceremony.

Probably as a result of this press coverage, a reporter from the Wokingham Times held a two and a half hour interview with Ray and Mahin Humphrey, and, subsequently, devoted half a page to a description of the Bahá'í Faith including a photograph of the Shrine of the Báb.

2 South Street
Oakham
Rutland



PRICES OF IMPORTED BOOKS

Owing to the further heavy fall in the value of sterling we are forced to suspend all prices for these.

Prices quoted in our November list for imported items (Part 2 of the Supplementary Catalogue) will be increased by 10% forthwith.

This surcharge may be increased or decreased without notice in the light of any further changes in the value of the pound sterling.

"GUIDANCE FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW"

This selection of passages from the writings of the Guardian of the Bahá'í Faith is one of the finest collections of the works of Shoghi Effendi. Its two hundred and sixty pages are packed with the most representative and some of the most powerful paragraphs culled from the major works of the Guardian. They were selected not merely to give guidance on a wide range of subjects and to elucidate some of the basic teachings of the Bahá'í Faith but also to give numerous examples of the way in which the Guardian shared with us gems from the sacred Writings of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá.

The sources from which this exciting compilation was made include the collection of "World Order" letters written in English to the Bahá'ís of the West between February, 1929 and March, 1936. These were published as they were received under the titles "The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh"; "The World Order of Bahá'u'lláh: Further Considerations"; "The Goal of a New World Order"; "The Golden Age of Bahá'u'lláh"; "The Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh" and "The Unfoldment of World Civilisation".

The scholarly yet eminently readable history of the first century of the Faith, "God Passes By"; the weighty and probably the most challenging of his works "The Promised Day is Come"; the collection of his early letters to the American believers published as "Bahá'í Administration" and some of his other long and stirring letters such as "The Advent of Divine Justice", the "Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour" are all used in this work.

From the Introduction right through to its fourteenth chapter the book cries out to be read, to be studied, to be quoted from, to be used for deepening, for education, for making telling points, for clarifying a multitude of the more important aspects of the Faith and for gaining those glimpses of the future which thrill and encourage the heart of every sincere believer.

For those who cannot easily obtain the many complete works from which the selections are made, for those who wish to see the Faith through the inspired eyes of its Guardian, for those who rejoice in the power and beauty of the Guardian's impeccable English, and for all those who want the widest survey of the Faith in authoritative language all condensed into one handy book, "Guidance for Today and Tomorrow" is certainly the "best buy".

Philip Hainsworth

Delivery of this new edition is expected shortly and orders may now be placed with the Trust.

"PRINCIPLES OF BAHÁ'Í ADMINISTRATION"

The Trust is so nearly out of stock of the CLOTH bound edition that one bulk overseas order cannot be filled, but a few copies are still available for small orders. When these have been sold there will be a long delay before fresh stocks become available. The cloth bound copies are priced at 65p each; the paperback edition is available at 40p. Ref. B.15.

"THE DAWN-BREAKERS", Nabil's Narrative.

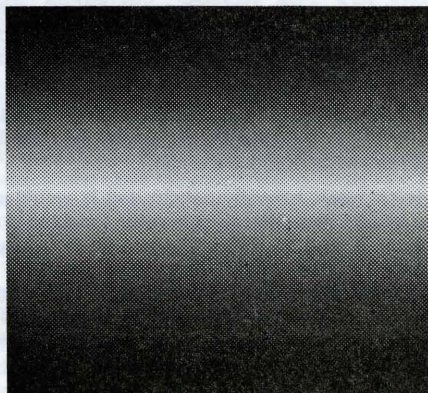
Both the British and the American editions are now out of print. Orders will not be recorded as it is not known when new editions will become available. An announcement will be made in the Journal when this book again becomes available, but, in the meantime, it would be appreciated if orders were not sent to us. Ref. B.17.

"PATTERN OF BAHÁ'Í LIFE"

Delivery of a new edition is expected very soon; the price has had to be increased to 12p per copy owing to increased costs. A few copies of the present edition still remain in stock and these will be sold at 10p until exhausted. Ref. P.4.

GUIDANCE FOR TODAY & TOMORROW

COMPILED FROM WRITINGS by SHOGHI EFFENDI



INVESTMENT SCHEME — LOAN APPEAL

The appeal for loans to support the work of the Trust has now reached £16,000, but there is a long way to go before the target of £35,000 will be reached. The friends may be interested to know that loans have come from as far afield as Australia and New Zealand.

You may wish to be reminded that loans can be made in any multiple of £25 for fixed periods of 10 or 20 years bearing interest at the rate of:—

7½% p.a. on a 10 year loan and
8% p.a. on a 20 year loan.

Application for loan forms and further information from:—

The Publishing Trust,
2 South Street,
Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HY

"THE CHRISTIANITY OF JESUS" by Richard Backwell.
Ref. B.110. Price £1.

A second edition of this useful book will be delivered shortly and the Trust has undertaken to take the whole edition. The first edition was sold very rapidly and it is suggested that those wanting to obtain copies of the second edition should send in their original orders quickly. Any friends who ordered the first edition but did not obtain copies should confirm their outstanding orders as soon as possible. Supplies will now be on normal terms, that is to say:

Post free to addresses in the British Isles.

Postage extra overseas.

Less standard discount to Assemblies and approved Bahá'í bodies, e.g. other National Assemblies.

"IN THE GARMENT OF BREVITY"

Several orders have been received for the above title. This is not a book, but the title of the review written for Gloria Faizi's book "THE BAHÁ'Í FAITH — An Introduction".

NATIONAL PLAN – PROGRESS REVIEW

(As set out in the Annual Report 130, and amended)

Consolidation:

A Development and enrichment of Bahá'í community life:

- 1) More regional, unit and area gatherings will be held in order to continue to develop group spirit and consciousness. Emphasis will be laid on the need to maintain high standards of conduct during these gatherings so as to uphold the dignity and prestige of the Faith. The purposes of the gatherings will be fully defined and each one will include some deepening sessions. There will also be time for social activities so that the friends can get to know each other. The participation of children with special sessions for their Bahá'í education, will be encouraged. These gatherings will be held frequently and should be self-supporting.
- 2) Guidance to LSAs and Groups – the following points will be stressed for study and action by LSAs and Groups:—
 - i) The need for development of social activity in each community, again with the maintenance of high standards:
 - ii) Concern for the care of individuals, especially those with physical or social handicaps, including periodical visits to inactive members with invitations to coffee, meals, etc:
 - iii) The need for consultation on the Notes for Guidance which have been issued by the NSA:
 - iv) The stimulation of interchange of visits between members of local communities and of joint activities between two or more LSAs.
- 3) The NSA will consider suitable methods of giving instruction in procedures and in the functions of LSAs to each community.
- 4) Consolidation of particular areas which have special weaknesses.

B Drive to increase observance of Laws of Bahá'u'lláh.

C Development of the institution of summer and winter schools:

- 1) The possibility of securing a permanent site;
- 2) The consideration of introducing closed campuses as an encouragement to concentration on the true purposes of the School, rather than being diverted by holiday attractions;
- 3) Programme re-appraisal.

D Publishing Trust:

- 1) A regular feature will appear in the "Journal" to bring publications, work and plans of the Trust to the general notice of the friends both at home and overseas: additional pulls will be made for overseas readers to pass around as publicity for the Trust.
- 2) We will seek expansion of sales through the retail book trade.

E Use of the "Journal":

- 1) There will be more articles aimed at deepening of individuals and enrichment of Bahá'í community life;
- 2) More use will be made of it as the main channel of communication between the NSA and the friends.

Consolidation:

- A 1) This has been partially achieved. All units have held or are holding at least one conference, but we will now encourage more unit gatherings provided that they are self supporting.

- 2) Further guidance will be given to LSAs and Groups.

- 3) Guidance Notes for LSA Chairmen and Secretaries will be prepared by the NSA Secretary. These will be expanded as basic material for use in Unit Conventions and gatherings, e.g. seminars and workshops, and UTCs will be asked to arrange for suitable sessions for these.

- 4) From time to time action is taken by the NSA.

B A general circular will be issued to LSAs and Groups, and will include emphasis on the spiritual significance of the Laws and the need to observe them.

C There was a partial experiment of the "Closed Campus" for summer schools at Chigwell and Carbisdale last year, but, as these had been hurriedly organised, no conclusions could be drawn. When the final venues are selected for summer schools next year the experiment will be continued. Places already booked include Wiston and Bath.

D 1) A regular feature about the work of the Publishing Trust is appearing in the "Journal".

- 2) With regard to the expansion of trade through the retail book trade, the Trust has advertised two titles in "THE SPECTATOR", and Bahá'ís have been urged to order these through their local bookshops, but results have been negligible. The Trust made approaches to W. H. Smith, but much work will be needed before we can get on to their list of approved suppliers.

E In order to develop the "Bahá'í Journal" as the main channel of communication, each issue will include an "NSA Letter" to be prepared by the Secretary, which will reflect the policies and share with the friends the main considerations and activities of the NSA.

(PLEASE BRING THIS INSERT WITH YOU TO TEACHING CONFERENCE)

NATIONAL PLAN (Cont.)

F Expansion and development of deepening classes and activities:

- 1) Education and guidance of individuals to encourage training in various skills and professions which would enhance their service to the Cause and also prepare themselves to pioneer during the next Plan;
- 2) Inculcation of the spirit of dedication with total commitment to the Faith.

G Development of education of Bahá'í children with a drive to secure the greater integration of children into Bahá'í activity and to develop their personal knowledge of the Faith.

Expansion

A Youth:

- 1) The Youth Department of the NTC will be strengthened and encouraged to make full use of the Bahá'í youth as the spearhead of the teaching effort, emphasising the need for detailed arrangements for follow-up and consolidation along with every teaching plan.
- 2) The youth must be completely integrated into the life and activity of the community as a whole, including specifically regular attendance and participation at the Nineteen Day Feast.

B Public Relations:

- 1) Contacts with non-Bahá'í organisations will be extended and developed, especially in the educational field. A new approach to UN will be made. The production of folders of basic material on the Faith will be expedited.
- 2) Sustained effort will be made to publicise the Faith through radio, TV and Press, both local and national.

C Teaching institutes will be established and developed.

D The Bahá'í Fund: There will be a continued programme for the education of the community on the nature of the Bahá'í Fund aimed at its continuing development and expansion, with progress towards universal participation and inculcation of the spirit of sacrifice.

E Continued efforts in the proclamation field: we will consider a suitable method of follow-up approach to the national leaders and prominent people who received copies of the Proclamation Book.

F Mass Teaching: In addition to the project in the Northern Islands which has already been approved, we will encourage the development of mass teaching throughout the country, stressing again the need for careful preparation and effective follow-up.

G Travel teaching: There will be a more dynamic approach to an expansion of organised travel teaching (international, national and internal), with regular reports in the Journal. The use of travel teaching teams of two or three will be developed and we will aim at the widespread development of voluntary efforts in this field.

H The use of the arts in teaching: The move towards teaching the Faith through artistic expression and creative ability (arts, drama, music, etc.) will be encouraged.

I Communities will be asked to arrange advertised prayer meetings, for example, at lunch time, in some easily accessible venue when non-Bahá'ís might be attracted, as a means of teaching the Faith. Suggested programmes for the use of communities will be drawn up.

F Many deepening activities are proceeding throughout the country. Youth have been encouraged through art competitions, etc., to develop skills and talents to enhance their capacity to serve the Cause, but the NSA has not yet been able to do anything to encourage youth to select the avenue and undertake specific professional training which would expand their value for general service to the Faith and their pioneer opportunities. The NTC (Youth Department) is to draw up a comprehensive list of such professions and skills and will consider ways and means of encouraging youth to undertake training in these fields (in the light of the guidance given to youth in the Universal House of Justice Letters of 10 June, 1966 and 9 October, 1968).

G Being given active consideration by the Religious Education Advisory Committee.

Expansion

A 1) This has been done.

B 1) In hand.

2) Being pursued.

C No progress other than the so-called "spiritualisation weekends".

D Being pursued.

E A follow-up letter has been sent to the Archbishop of Canterbury only, although a great deal has been done at local level. Letters to the other first tier VIPs are being prepared.

F There has been little progress on the "encouragement of mass teaching throughout the country", but some unit conferences have had sessions on this subject.

G No progress on use of travel teaching teams.

H This has been fostered; for example, the Arts Festival at Winter School.

I A circular letter on this subject will be issued shortly.