

The HOME FRONT

A News Bulletin

No. 24.

OCTOBER
1960 NOVEMBER
DECEMBER

THE TEN YEAR CRUSADE

"The historic process originated as far back as the year which witnessed the formation of the Six-Year Plan on the occasion of the Centenary of the Declaration of the Bab in Shiraz, which gathered momentum, as a result of the inauguration of the Two-Year Plan which followed the Centenary of the Bab's Martyrdom in Tabriz, which received a tremendous impetus, in consequence of the launching of the Ten-Year Crusade commemorating the Centenary celebrations of the birth of Baha'u'llah's Mission in Tihiran - such a process must, as the Centenary celebrations designed to commemorate the Declaration of that same Mission in Baghdad approaches, be so markedly accelerated, and yield such a harvest, as will astonish the entire Baha'i world, and give the signal for the inauguration, by those who have so spontaneously set this process in motion, more than a decade ago, of a blissful era designed to carry the chief builders of Baha'u'llah's embryonic World Order, throughout the unnumbered, the diversified and widely scattered Dependencies of the British Crown, to still greater heights of achievements in the service and for the glory of His Faith."

Extract from last letter to us from Guardian dated 30/8/57.

ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE BAHAI'S OF THE BRITISH ISLES

TEN YEAR CRUSADEGOALS TO BE ACHIEVED

20 Local Spiritual Assemblies
15 Incorporated Assemblies

TIME LEFT

2 years
and 4 months

N.T.C. Letter Page

Dear friends,

The National Teaching Committee looks forward to meeting you at Teaching Conference, and in particular to meeting those many friends to whom we write but do not see.

The loving and whole-hearted support received in full measure from all, together with the activities of the Units, gives us confidence that this year's Teaching Conference will gather together the fruits of the year's Unit work, and so ensure that the goals are won.

With loving Baha'i greetings,
Yours in His service,

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

PROGRAMME OF NATIONAL TEACHING CONFERENCE

3.

7th/8th January 1961

Theme: THE LAST PHASE OF THE TEN YEAR CRUSADE

Saturday

- 2.30 p.m. Opening Devotional
Reading of the Letter from the Hands of the Cause
- 3.00 p.m. "Progress of the Ten Year Crusade Goals in the
World and on the European Front" Ian Semple
- 4.00 p.m. Tea break
- 4.30 p.m. "The Significance of Baha'i Administration in
Your Home Town" Ernest Gregory: Bahadur Haqjoo
- 6.00 p.m. Dinner
- 7.45 p.m. Session for the Hands of the Cause - Dr.H.Grossman
is expected to be present
- 8.45 p.m. National Spiritual Assembly Session

Sunday

- 10.00 a.m. Opening Devotional
- 10.30 a.m. "Focus on Youth" Report and Suggestions from the
Youth Winter School for the Crusade Goals
- 11.15 a.m. Coffee Break
- 11.45 a.m. THE HOME FRONT
- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Progress of the Teaching Units | John Wade |
| Towards the Goals | Marion Hofman |
- 12.45 p.m. Lunch
- 2.15 p.m. "Vital Action" (including E.A.T.C.Territory)
- 3.15 p.m. "Baha'i Literature" Ian Semple
David Hofman
Tom McArthur
- 4.00 p.m. Close of Conference

4.

Accommodation for Those attending Teaching Conference

Please make your own bookings direct.

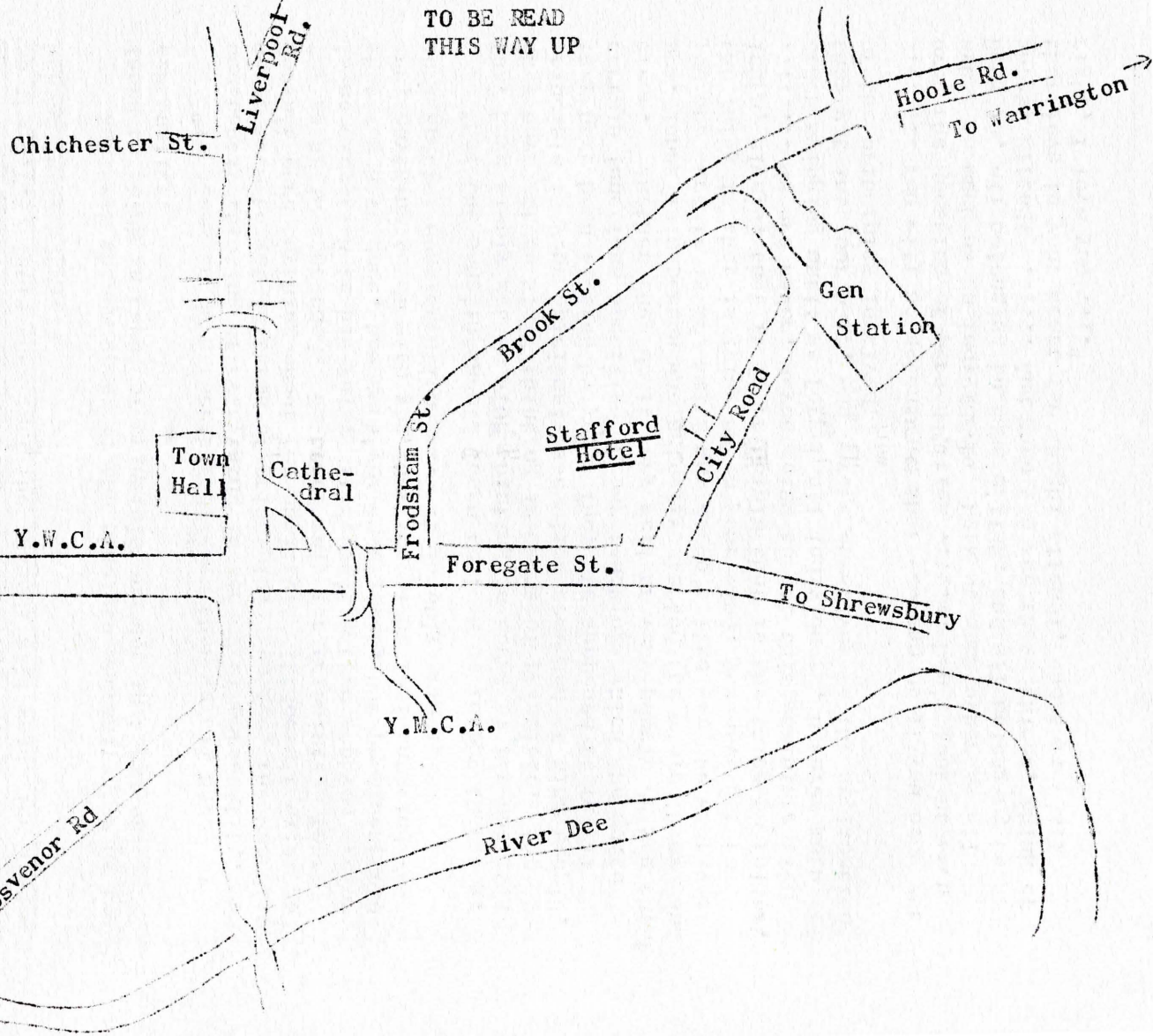
Stafford Hotel City Road, Chester.	Bed and Breakfast 21/-	<u>Teaching Conference being held here</u>
Windsor Hotel, City Road, Chester	B & B	from 15/-
Westminster Hotel, City Road, Chester	B & B	from 23/-
Albion Hotel, City Road, Chester	B & B	22/-
Grotto Hotel, Bridge Street, Chester	B & B	20/- to 22/-
Y.M.C.A. The Old Palace, Chester		
Y.W.C.A. 102 Watergate Street, Chester		
Mrs. Khanadas, 61, Hoole Road, Chester (contact)	B & B	12/6d
Mrs. Morris, 22, Halkyn Road, Chester	B & B	10/6d
Mrs. Evans, 59, Halkyn Road, Chester	B & B	12/6d

The Stafford Hotel is very close to the Station, and all the other hotels and boarding houses are within easy reach.

TEACHING

"Of all the gifts of God, the greatest is the gift of teaching. It draweth unto us the Grace of God and is our first obligation. Of such a gift how can we deprive ourselves? Nay, our lives, our goods, our comforts, our rest, we offer them all as a sacrifice for the 'Abha Beauty and teach the Cause of God. The Glory of Glories rest upon you ... "

Abdu'l-Baha

MAP OF CHESTER

Below are excerpts from a talk given by Ruhiiyyih Khanum on the occasion of the Jubilee Celebrations in April/May 1953 in the United States of America. We are reprinting this here as the N.T.C. feels sure that the friends will value the wisdom behind these words.

Ruhiyyih Khanum spoke of the absolute necessity for us to learn to think in terms of principle and not in terms of personality.

"It seems to be a terrible disease that we all have, of constantly thinking of everything in terms of personality. We never seem to get to terms of principle. You see, the Guardian doesn't care anything about personality. It doesn't exist as far as he is concerned. He cares only for principle. There is no exception to his rule. It doesn't matter who you are or what you have done, how much you have given, how prominent you are, anything to do with you that you might feel entitled you to some special consideration ... It is only principle.

"Now the Baha'is should learn to look at things that way. They have simply got to STOP thinking in terms of personality. They have got to START thinking in terms of principle. The principle is your Spiritual Assemblies composed of nine people. They have been elected by you. They are supposed to fulfil certain functions specified in our teachings which are quite clear. Whether they do it very well or very poorly or you think Mrs. Jones is a person who actually started the whole thing, and you are sure it is Mr. Smith who doesn't like you, or whatever the thing is that is going on in your mind, you have got to learn, always, that it is principle that is the thing to follow. We are never, never going to get this administrative order swinging until we forget all individuals, however much they get into our hair, and devote ourselves to the application of the principles involved.

..... You will be astonished what you can do if you ever get over the question of personalities Don't look at each other so much as an individual. Look at each other as all Baha'is, all belonging to Baha'u'llah, and all belonging to Shoghi Effendi And when you see those things, think of that love in your heart for Shoghi Effendi, and say: "All right, I love you"

TEN YEAR CRUSADE GOAL TOWNS

Those Aiming for Assembly Status by next Ridvan

CHESTER (6 adults and 1 Youth) Regular firesides taking place with at least two or three contacts always present and at the moment they have two close ones. As you know public meetings are held every month and at their recent Unit Conference Liverpool promised their support. The friends are now in the midst of preparations for Teaching Conference on 7th /8th January when they will be welcoming us to their town.

GLASGOW (9 adults and 1 youth) With the return of Mrs. Susan McKechnie from Canada, this community is assured of regaining Assembly status at Ridvan. We ask your prayers that soon they may be able to find a suitable meeting room or Centre which they very badly need in order to be able to continue their activities.

PONTYPRIDD (7 adults) They are in the process of trying to obtain a meeting room in the town centre, and plan to hold regular monthly public meetings, and weekly meetings on Sunday evening.

TORQUAY (8 adults) Some of the friends redecorated the Centre recently and it looks very pleasant indeed now. Their public meetings are proving very successful, and one of the friends wrote about their last one: "Without exaggeration it was a wonderful meeting. There were 12 non-Baha'is and about 11 Baha'is. Suheil Bushrui made a very deep impression on everyone and the results may well be far-reaching." Since then the news has come of a declaration, so Torquay may be said to be 'in the bag'.

WATFORD (7 adults and 1 youth) On 29th October 17 people attended their public meeting, 3 of whom were contacts.

WOKINGHAM (8 adults) Miss Kitty Glover who has recently declared is making plans to pioneer to Wokingham in the new year which assures yet another goal town of achieving Assembly status.

Other Goal Towns

BLACKBURN (3 adults) Dr. and Mrs. Afnan have had to move out to Burnley because of the requirements of Dr. Afnan's job, but they will continue to give their full support to Blackburn activities.

EXETER (2 adults 1 youth) Their last two public meetings have proved very successful. On 30th October a very lively meeting was held when Valery Morley spoke. There were several contacts present, some new ones. There were five or six interested contacts at their next meeting on 13th November when Meherangiz Munsiff spoke.

SALISBURY (3 adults) A successful One Day School was held on 9th October with four or five contacts present in spite of the prevalent floods. We would like to take this opportunity of announcing the glad news that Margaret and Stuart Sweet were blessed with twin boys on 9th November, so the community might now be described as 3 plus 2 youths).

ABERDEEN (1 adult) At the moment Jean Campbell is there all alone though it is expected that Pari and Iran Roushan will be able to join her on 1st March and 1st July respectively. But if anyone can pioneer there sooner, then all the better. Regular quotations are appearing in the local paper.

BANGOR (Wales) (1 adult) Successful Weekend School held on 29th/30th October with four contacts present, two of whom appeared particularly impressed by the Baha'i spirit present at the meetings. Support was given by the Chester and Liverpool friends as well as some friends who came all the way from South Wales.

CARLISLE (2 adults) Miss Parvin Modrek has arrived there from Persia to commence Midwifery Training. Unfortunately Iran Moussazadeh the first pioneer to this town will have to leave for about six months to complete her training elsewhere (she tried to get a permanent job but they wondered why she did not wish to finish her training). However she is determined to return to Carlisle at the end of six months and we hope that soon she will see the fruit of all her efforts.

PETERBOROUGH (4 adults) Miss Gina Nouri has just received her working permit and has commenced training at the hospital.

YORK (1 adult) At long last Golrokh Sabit is to be joined by a fellow Baha'i, Malcolm Lee, who has already been doing some valuable work helping with the activities in York. He will be pioneering there at the beginning of January.

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

Cambridge University Societies' Fair Although there isn't a Baha'i Society at Cambridge University, it is becoming almost traditional to have a Baha'i Stall at the yearly Societies' Fair. This year it was held on 5th/6th October. Within the precincts of the Masonic Hall, crammed together with Buddhists, Socialists, Hypnotists and Atheists, the stall with its startling backcloth attracted many curious students, three of whom have since been attending the Wednesday firesides regularly. Friends from London, Manchester and Edinburgh helped to man the stall.

Northampton On 31st October Betty Reed was invited to give a talk on the Holy Land, illustrated with slides, to a Baptist's Men's Fireside. She gave a fifty minute talk followed by half-an-hour of questioning. Forty people were present, including 12 ladies because it was an open meeting. It was the biggest audience they had ever had. There wasn't an empty seat in the place - and all non-Baha'is. Betty used many slides of Haifa, Akka, and Bahji, and was able to give an exposition afterwards, on progressive revelation.

Liverpool Write as follows: "The experiment of a varied programme with talks, devotionals, study groups and visiting speakers (from outside organisations) does seem to be beginning to bear fruit. We rarely have a Wednesday evening without at least one contact present.

B.B.C. Woman's Hour Broadcast Mrs. Marzieh Gail has made a recording which is likely to be included in the next series of talks on different religions, "Confessions of Faith", starting early in the new year. This will certainly be a memorable occasion, and we suggest you keep a look out for it in the Radio Times from January onwards.

Manchester They write: "We should now like to give a brief report on the first meeting in one of the Manchester suburbs, namely Withington, at which Owen Battrick spoke. We were pleased to have ten contacts present, three of whom had come for the first time. One of these bought 14/- worth of books which she is going to read before she comes again. We have the names and addresses of all the non-Baha'is who were there and they will be followed up. In spite of posters and adverts in the Press, the contacts all seem to have come by personal introduction.

"You may be interested to know that 3 non-Baha'is and about 20 Baha'is were present at a house-warming party of 2 non-Baha'is who are very interested in the Faith. The young couple asked for a Baha'i reading to be read during the evening and they were presented with one of the cards "Be generous in prosperity" which all the guests signed."

Sutton Coldfield With the movement of Miss Emily Eastgate from Birmingham to Sutton Coldfield, a group of three believers has been formed there. At the home of Mr. and Mrs. Choan Amini, regular Wednesday firesides have been held and friends from Birmingham, Lichfield and Stafford have met there. Up to five contacts have attended, two of whom never miss a fireside. They first came after a front-page article on the formation of the Group in the local newspaper. Three other articles, two concerned with meetings with local young Methodists, have since appeared in editions of both local papers. Local interest seems to have been aroused.

Southern R.T.C. Recommendation "It is a recognized lack that at many meetings strangers may come and go without having been shown the friendliness of a little chat. Therefore the S.R.T.C. recommends that the chairman of the particular meeting should arrange for one or two friends to act as hosts to ensure that no one is allowed to feel neglected. This will encourage all Baha'is to realise that: "if you want friends you must be friendly."

Newspaper Advertising The Public Relations Committee feels that the biggest fault with Baha'i advertisements are as follows:

- (a) Usually too much lettering
- (b) Important lettering does not stand out
- (c) Badly balanced
- (d) Often too many lengthy quotations used

The committee felt that "Baha'i World Faith" was the most important thing to convey. This should be in large type. Any quotations should be very small. Such wordings as "Public Meeting" "All Welcome", etc. were unimportant.

Leicester One Day School On Saturday 12th November about 40 people attended the One Day School in Leicester. About ten communities were represented, and there were approximately 8 contacts; one of whom came from Sydney, Australia and had watched the Temple being built from his back garden. He happened to be passing the Centre and saw the name written in the window and came in.

Wokingham R.D. One Day School About 25 people attended this School on 13th November, 11 of whom were non-Baha'is and very interested. Three of them were brought by Graeme Moore who spent last year with Paul Adams in Spitzbergen.

Norwich Weekend School A most successful and enjoyable School and public meeting took place on 26th/27th November. Total attendance was approximately thirty, with about 11 non-Baha'is.

Youth Winter School Is being held in York from 2nd to 6th January inclusive at the Youth Hostel there. The cost is only 10/- per day, not including lunch (which can be easily obtained in nearby restaurants) and this amount includes Bed/breakfast/morning coffee/afternoon tea/supper. If you would like to attend, bookings should be made through:

Mr. Jimmy Habibi,
20, Sussex Gardens,
Fog Lane,
Didsbury,
Manchester.

On Saturday 7th January it is hoped that a party of youth can travel to Chester to attend Teaching Conference and a cheap party booking may be available.

Baha'i Society - Faculty of Technology, Manchester University

On Thursday 1st December, 400 students attended a talk given

during the lunch hour by Mrs. Shomais Afnan entitled: "Women - What can They Offer?" Well done Manchester youth!

They are now planning a similar talk at the main University prior to starting a Baha'i Society there.

Publicity The Public Relations Committee will be very glad to help and advise any communities how to obtain the maximum publicity for their Weekend Schools, public meetings, etc. They will provide copy which can be taken into your local paper, and can give you information of news value about your speakers. This kind of help can ensure that the fullest possible benefit is obtained from your activities, and if you would like to take advantage of it just write direct to the P.R.C. Secretary, Mr. Geoffrey Bridle, 19, Shepherd Hill, Earley, Reading, Berks.

Epsom Is an extension teaching goal town of London. On Saturday 3rd December they held a public meeting in the afternoon at which Ian Semple spoke. It was well supported by some London friends and others from nearby places and they had about 8 non-Baha'is, one of whom was the Assistant at the Local Information Bureau (they had sent an invitation to the Manager of the office). She now intends to have a supply of Baha'i leaflets at the Information Centre, and will put enquirers in touch with the Baha'is.

Forthcoming Events

18th December	Eccles One-Day School
17th/18th December	N.S.A.Meeting
31st/1st January	N.T.C.Meeting
2nd-6th January	Youth Winter School (York)
7th/8th January	National Teaching Conference
15th January	World Religion Day
21st/22nd January	N.S.A.Meeting
4th/5th February	N.T.C.Meeting