

# HOME FRONT

A NEWS BULLETIN

No.28

December 1961

"The Cause has become very great. Many souls are entering it - souls with different mentalities and range of understanding. Complex difficulties constantly rise before us. The administration of the Cause has become most difficult. Conflicting thoughts and theories attack the Cause from every side. Now consider to what extent the believers of God must become firm and soul-sacrificing. Every one of the friends must become the essence of essences; each one must become a brilliant lamp. People all around the world are entering the Cause, people of various tribes and nations and religions and sects. It is most difficult to administer to such heterogeneous elements. Wisdom and Divine insight are necessary. Firmness and steadfastness are needed at such a crucial period of the Cause.

"All the meetings must be for teaching the Cause and spreading the Message, and suffering the souls to enter into the Kingdom of Baha'u'llah. Look at me. All my thoughts are centred around the proclamation of the Kingdom. I have a lamp in my hand searching throughout the lands and seas to find souls who can become heralds of the Cause. Day and night I am engaged in this work. Any other deliberations in the meetings are futile and fruitless. Convey the Message! Attract the hearts! Sow the seeds! Teach the Cause to those who do not know."

From 'Abdu'l-Baha's talk given in London,  
16th January, 1913.



N . T . C . L E T T E R

Dear Baha'i Friends,

"Moving to Ultimate, Total and Complete Victory"

This is the theme of our Teaching Conference this year, to be held in Manchester on 6th/7th January 1962. It is the theme of our life from now on to Ridvan 1963, to ensure the gift which we shall surely lay at our beloved Guardian's feet on that day.

This is the high ideal to lead us along the road, but what of the tasks which we must accomplish as we tread the path to 'ultimate, total and complete victory'?

First, never to stop for one moment in the prosecution of our teaching plans. The Guardian has told us of the "unprecedented increase of our numbers" which will mark the closing phases of the Ten Year Crusade, and what the Guardian has said, we know full well will take place. So it behoves every one of us to be on the alert to recognise those 'waiting souls' and to bring them in to the Faith. Only by teaching can we achieve this end. "Teach ye the Cause of God, O people of Baha, for God hath prescribed unto every one the duty of proclaiming His Message, and regardeth it as the most meritorious of all deeds".

Secondly, we need pioneers. These last few months have been remarkable for the arrival of pioneers to this country from every quarter of the globe - Mauritius, Tunisia, Canada, Pakistan, Hong Kong, Malaya, as well as Persia. Even so, many places still need to be filled, and it is to the British community we now look to make the necessary sacrifices and move to those places where British Baha'is are so badly needed.

Let us remind ourselves of just what we have to do to achieve the Goals of the Crusade:-



- 1) Establish the last twelve Local Spiritual Assemblies.
- 2) Consolidate those Assemblies who have become numerically weak.
- 3) Incorporate eight more Local Assemblies.

This means that every Assembly in the country - all 48 of them - MUST be <sup>an</sup> alert and vigorously working community by Ridvan 1962 in order that 19 of them may be incorporated by Ridvan 1963, and the remainder forming a strong and well-founded basis - our springboard for the future.

Finally, may we remind you of the words of our beloved Master, 'Abdu'l-Baha. He said: "The field is indeed so immense, the period so critical, the Cause so great, the workers so few, the time so short, the privilege so priceless, that no follower of the Faith of Baha'u'llah, worthy to bear His name, can afford a moment's hesitation".

Will you please come to Teaching Conference prepared with ideas and offers of help. We urge every Assembly and Group to ensure representation at this most vital Conference, in order that they can take part in preparing for our 'ultimate, total and complete victory'.

Yours, in His service,

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

AN ANNOUNCEMENT

The N.T.C. Office will be moving to Twyford in December. As from 11th Dec. please address all letters to the Secretary at "Green Tiles", London Road, Twyford, Berks. Tel: Twyford (Berks) 5055.



## GOALS FOR RIDVAN 1962

### With Notes for the guidance of would-be Pioneers

ABERDEEN      Jean Campbell's move to the Haziratu'l-Quds  
7                      and Pari Rowshan's departure for America will  
                        leave this community bereft of two of its  
earliest members. But we have every confidence that the  
remaining friends will be inspired to greater efforts and  
reap their just rewards. We welcome Lindy Wyand, their  
first declarant.

N.B. Aberdeen is a Royal Burgh with excellent tourist  
trade; light and heavy industries and a University. Also  
a training hospital for nurses.

BURNLEY              Only one more declaration and they are there!!  
8                      Maybe they will be able to send out pioneers  
                        to help their less fortunate brothers and  
                        sisters.

N.B. This is a colliery town with engineering and heavy  
industry, also famous for the manufacture of cotton. Has  
a training hospital for nurses.

CARLISLE              Molly Hughes has now joined the 3 remaining  
4                      Persian nurses, and has been elected Group  
                        Secretary. It is urgent that a British  
family pioneers to this town.

N.B. Carlisle, famous for its biscuits, has become a  
centre of manufacturing industries - has a training  
hospital for nurses and a Technical College.

EXETER                The steady work being done by this community  
7                      is evident in the growth of its members both  
                        in numbers and the knowledge of the Faith.

N.B. Exeter, an old English Cathedral town, is a centre of  
learning with University, Technical College and College  
of Art.

INVERNESS            Has recently aroused the opposition of the  
4                      local Clergy. Needs pioneers of any nationality.



N.B. Inverness is a Royal and Ancient Burgh, the "Capital of the Highlands"; boasts a Technical College, training Hospital and some light industry.

MOTHERWELL This little community continues to do noble  
5 work, but needs British pioneers.

N.B. Home of British bridge building, engineering and such like heavy industry. Also boasts a Technical School.

PETERBOROUGH Our loving greetings go to Mrs. Mary Holl who  
6 has recently declared, and a welcome to Iraj Nouri Zargandeh, who has arrived from Italy, and also his twin sister, Mina.

N.B. As a junction for British Railways, Peterborough manufactures railway equipment, including diesel engines. Has a Technical College.

SALISBURY We are thrilled to welcome Marcia Salwey who  
4 made her declaration on the last day of November. We now look forward to the arrival of Irene Furutan to commence her nursing training and the widening of the teaching field in this town. The need is still for pioneers.

N.B. Market and agricultural town, with light industries, particularly printing. Has a Technical College, School of Arts and Crafts and three hospitals.

SUTTON COLDFIELD We announce with pleasure the declaration  
7 of Arnold Pitt and send him our loving greetings. May he lead the way for others to bring this Group to Assembly status by Ridvan 1962

N.B. Iron and steel manufacturing centre, & allied industries.

SOUTHPORT This community doubled its numbers in six months,  
4 but two of its declarants live outside the civic limits. Its Helper's opinion is that this Goal Town is assured!

N.B. Seaside resort and County Borough, with some light industry.



WINCHESTER Another devoted and united community whose efforts must surely be rewarded soon.

5

N.B. Winchester is a Municipal Borough with local government offices. Training hospital for nurses, also a Technical College.

YORK A young group who would welcome help and support from their elder brothers and sisters.

6

N.B. A Cathedral city, full of history and some light industry.

THE POSITION AT A GLANCE

(3rd December 1961)

Goal Towns

Aberdeen	7	Peterborough	6
Carlisle	4	Salisbury	4
Exeter	7	Southport	4
Inverness	5	Sutton C'field	7
Motherwell	5	Winchester	5
Burnley	8	York	6

Assemblies below Numbers

Epsom	8	Leicester	7
Wokingham	6	Oxford	7
Glasgow	8	Nottingham	7

OUR PRESENT DEFICIT - 51 BAHA'IS



TEACHING CONFERENCE

This most vital Conference will be held on the 6th and 7th January 1962, at:

The Midland Hotel,  
Peter Street,  
MANCHESTER.

All the friends are urged to attend. This is the last chance we shall have of making plans to achieve "ultimate, total and complete victory". Let us remember the warning of our beloved Guardian, who said, "If these (Home Front goals) are not achieved, the Crusade will have failed." Can we even contemplate failure which means failure of a World Crusade? It is inconceivable!

Please therefore make every effort to attend and bring with you offers of help - in the field of teaching, money for the Cause, pioneering - these will enable us to achieve our victory.

The Conference programme will deal with the various points contained in the recent Message from the Hands of the Cause. Study it and bring it with you to the Conference.

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Please see overleaf for details concerning overnight accommodation for Teaching Conference.



TEACHING CONFERENCE

Overnight Accommodation

Reservations for overnight accommodation must be made by the friends direct, and without delay, as although the hotels have rooms available now, the number is limited. The following are suggested:- (Charges include breakfast)

Midland Hotel, Single Room: from 52/6d.  
Peter Street, Double room: from 95/-  
Manchester 2.

Tel: Central 3333

Grosvenor Hotel, Single Room: 39/6d.  
2 Deansgate,  
Manchester. Tel: BLA 7024

New Millgate Hotel, Single Room: 34/6d.  
18 Long Millgate,  
Manchester 4. Tel: BLA 9183

Mitre Hotel, Single Room: 32/6d.  
Cathedral Gates, Twin-bedded: 65/-  
Manchester. Tel: BLA 4128

Maybank Hotel, Single Room: 18/6d.  
202 Stockport Road,  
Manchester 13. Tel: Ard. 5789

Sheriff Hotel, Single Room: 19/6d.  
204 Stockport Road,  
Manchester 13. Tel: Ard. 6464

Leicester Hotel, Single Room: 21/-  
12/16 Cecil St,  
Oxford Road,  
Manchester. Tel: Ard. 3923

Y.M.C.A.,  
56 Peter Street,  
Manchester 2.

Y.W.C.A.,  
36 Peter Street,  
Manchester 2.



P I O N E E R S

Since the last issue of the Home Front, the following pioneers have moved to their pioneer posts:-

Miss Parvaneh Khalili from Eastbourne to Sheffield.  
Mr. and Mrs. Bennett and their daughter Helen  
from Christchurch to Exeter.  
Miss Angela Anderson from Edinburgh to Epsom.  
Mr. Roy Mottahedeh from U.S.A. to Cambridge.  
Mrs. Anvar from London to Wokingham R.D.  
Mr. Ruhi and Dorothy Sabit from Watford to Hove.  
Mrs. Maghbookeh Ashraf from Addis Abbaba to Hove.  
Mr. Michael Blakey from Reading to Wokingham R.D.  
Mr. M. Ahdieh from London to Romford.  
Mr. Iraj Nouri Zargandeh from Italy to Peterborough.  
Mr. Brian Whitehead from Manchester to York.  
Miss Sharia Bahkhshayesh from Brighton to Hove.  
Mrs. Molly Hughes from Liverpool to Carlisle.

Steps are being taken, with the help of the Persian N.T.C. to bring Persian nurse-trainees to this country. At the moment the following are expected:-

Miss Faizeh Udibiet in York  
Miss Irene Furutan in Salisbury  
Miss R.L. Irani in Burnley  
Miss P. Gardesham in Inverness  
Miss M. Rashidi in Chester

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NEWS FROM IRELAND

The Dublin Weekend School was a heart-warming experience for the forty who attended. Baha'is from the north brought several non-Baha'i friends with them and among the visitors was a student from Trinity who a few days later spoke in praise of the Faith during a crowded debate at the University, and also gave Cyrus Rowshan the opportunity to say a few words.

There was a good turn-out for the consultative meeting with the N.S.A. representative, Marion Hofman, and the Dublin, Bangor and Belfast Assemblies. Many points were brought out in discussion which demonstrated the value of these meetings in the process of perfecting the administrative Institutions of the Cause, so that the world-redeeming power of Baha'u'llah may flow freely through them.

Belfast's two recent declarations were Marie Baillie who now joins her sisters, Pat and Christinz, in the Cause of God, and Joe Watson, head boy of one of Ireland's most famous schools, who hopes to enter Cambridge next year. The tempo of teaching work is increasing everywhere, and the Belfast Weekend School, arranged for 9th 10th December is expected to attract more interest than ever. Several bookshops are stocking "Thief in the Night", and a publicity campaign is being planned to promote the sale of this book.

Dr. John Lee has obtained a post in a Londonderry hospital, thus establishing a new Baha'i centre in this historic city. Lisbeth Greeves, who has already a little group of contacts there, will be putting him in touch with them on her return home from Australia.

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## TRAVEL TEACHING

One of the most helpful and enjoyable ways of teaching the Faith is by travelling and visiting the friends, the regular visits to neighbouring communities, for social as well as study purposes. LONDON is undertaking outings of omnibus proportions. Recently some 40 friends and contacts spent a day with the Canterbury friends. After a tour of the Cathedral and other places of interest in this ancient city, the party gathered together at the Friends' Meeting House for an informal discussion. Their latest 'outing' was a mass visit to Romford (their extension Goal Town) for a Unity Feast on 2nd December.

We are sure that there is more of this kind of activity going on and we would like very much to hear about it. Small communities derive so much stimulation and encouragement from the love and warmth of a large gathering of Baha'is, especially in their home territory.

Another form of travel teaching is being carried out by James Forsythe who has now completed four organised tours in which he visited 30 Assemblies and Groups in Ireland, Wales and England. We hope to plan another tour in Scotland in February or March. He has a very beautiful collection of coloured slides of his Pilgrimage for which he has prepared an excellent commentary, attractive to Baha'is and non-Baha'is alike.

Adib Taherzadeh is an indefatigable tourer - he has recently visited 7 Centres in the West and South of England. David Hofman seems tireless, as do many of our well-known and loved speakers, so much in demand. Most of them are also "Helpers" to Goal Towns and numerically weak Assemblies.

But, please, we need many more - friends who will visit a fireside, an isolated believer, or join a new community at their Nineteen Day Feast.



John Morley is visiting the West Country during this month, and Aldie Robarts and Michael Blakey are able to visit many of the friends during the course of their business travels.

We would like to take the opportunity here of expressing our thanks to Dr. Alexander Reid, until recently Secretary of the Chilean N.S.A., and now spending a few months in London. He is helping us very much in our teaching work and has already visited Reading, Cambridge and Winchester.

Visits over a period of time, probably a few days or a week or two are perhaps more difficult to arrange, but reap rich rewards. Shomais Afnan spent three weeks in Motherwell in September, helping the Group there with their intensive teaching campaign. Harry Charles is concentrating on making contacts in Salisbury. To small communities, this kind of help is invaluable, and with the Christmas holidays in view, we appeal to all those who have time to spare to consider how best it can be used in teaching the Cause.

All in all, travel teaching presents many opportunities of serving the Faith and is undoubtedly an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

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Recommended to Study Groups

Teaching Manual - - - - - 2/6d. per copy  
Study Course, "The Baha'i Faith", 6d. per copy

Obtainable from the N.T.C. Secretary



## STUDY INSTITUTES

Our first and most important obligation is to demonstrate to the world that spirit of unity which is to be found nowhere on earth except within the community of the Most Great Name. This is the meaning of consolidation - this is our most imperative goal of achievement. True unity can only be achieved through the spiritual understanding of the Covenant, through the operation of Baha'u'llah's Administrative Order, through completely living the life.

The Institute on the Covenant and Administration has therefore been devised, so that we may gain a common understanding of the true meaning of unity, that our community may become firmly consolidated.

It will be remembered that a very successful weekend was held in Oxford to study the Institute, and this experiment was followed in Edinburgh and Birmingham with varying success. The main difficulty seems to be that in order to obtain the greatest benefit from a study of this kind, it is necessary to concentrate the attention of the pupil until the end is reached. The Institute is so compiled that breaks are damaging to the sequence, and therefore complete understanding of the subject matter. For this reason, we have endeavoured to arrange suitable weekends for the complete study of the Compilation, and it takes the whole of the two days to do so. On the other hand, in some areas, sufficient friends have not been found who are able to devote the whole of a weekend, and suggestions have been made that the study be carried out throughout two consecutive Sundays, but this too has failed for lack of support.

The N.T.C. would welcome suggestions. Will those who would like to take part in a study Institute, please send their names to the N.T.C. Secretary, clearly stating whether they are willing and able to devote the whole of one weekend, or will need two separate days.



## SOME IMPORTANT DATES

### 19-Day Feasts

December 12th:	Questions	January 19th:	Sovereignty
December 31st:	Honour	February 7th:	Dominion

Teaching Conference 6th/7th January 1962 at the Midland Hotel, Manchester (see pages 7 and 8).

Youth Winter School 29th December to 6th January at Clifton Youth Hostel, York. An attractive programme of social activities, talks and discussions has been arranged. The charge is only 8/6d. per day for accommodation, breakfast and evening meal; mid-day meal is extra.

Please make your booking at once to:-

Mr. Malcolm Lee,  
1 South Esplanade,  
York.

Weekend School 10th/11th February, 1962, at Dalston Hall, Carlisle. Details available later.

### Some Regular Firesides

Mondays	- Inverness
Tuesdays	- Exeter, Salisbury, Watford, Canterbury, Oxford, Hove.
Wednesdays	- Sutton Coldfield, York, Winchester, Brighton, Cambridge and Carlisle.
Thursdays	- Winchester, Birmingham, Canterbury, Southport and Peterborough.
Fridays	- Chester, Sunderland, Wokingham R.D. and Peterborough.
Saturdays	- Leicester (public meeting), Burnley.
Sundays	- Kings Lynn.

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NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

"Green Tiles",  
London Road,  
Twyford, Berks.

12th December, 1961.

TO ALL BAHAI FRIENDS

The whole Baha'i World has just celebrated the Day of the Covenant and, lead by the Hands in Haifa, has joined in ardent prayer for the teaching work and the successful consummation of the Ten Year Crusade.

At Teaching Conference, we shall consult together on all aspects of teaching to enable us to perform our part of this gigantic task. A vital need which is already apparent is for more and more visitors to firesides and travel teachers, not only to support the teaching in Goal Towns, but also to encourage and increase the tempo of teaching in all Assemblies now striving to consolidate for incorporation.

Will you please do two things ?

- 1) Fill in the slip at the foot of this circular and return it to the N.T.C. without x delay, and
- 2) Attend your Unit Conference in January prepared to give instant assistance.

Our united efforts now will ensure the laying of firm foundations for our pillar to support the Universal House of Justice.

With loving greetings,

Yours, in His Service,

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE.

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To the Secretary, National Teaching Committee,  
"Green Tiles", London Road, Twyford, Berks.

I undertake to visit the Baha'i community in .....  
each week \*(fortnight - month) during the next \*(fifteen) months.

\* amend as  
necessary

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

'Phone no. if available .....