

THE HOME FRONT

A NEWS BULLETIN

No. 33

December 1962

"I swear by the one true God! This is the day of those who have detached themselves from all but Him, the day of those who have recognized His unity, the day whereof God createth, with the hands of His power, divine beings and imperishable essences, every one of whom will cast the world and all that is therein behind him, and will wax so steadfast in the Cause of God that every wise and understanding heart will marvel."

"There lay concealed within the Holy Veil, and prepared for the service of God, a company of His chosen ones who shall be manifested unto men, who shall aid His Cause, who shall be afraid of no one, though the entire human race rise up and war against them. These are the ones who, before the gaze of the dwellers on earth and the denizens of heaven, shall arise and, shouting aloud, acclaim the name of the Almighty, and summon the children of men to the path of God, the All-Glorious, the All-Praised."

Baha'u'llah

From Advent of Divine Justice, Page 71.

Issued by the National Teaching Committee of the National
Assembly of the Baha'is of the British Isles.

Extract from Letter written by our beloved Guardian
24th November, 1924

"....Fortified by the knowledge of the gracious aid of Baha'u'llah and the repeated assurances of 'Abdu'l-Baha, let us first strive to live the life and then arise with one heart, one mind, one voice, to reinforce our numbers and achieve our end. Let us recall, and seek.....the comfort of the last wishes of our departed yet ever-watchful Master:-

'It behooveth them not to rest for a moment, neither to seek repose. They must disperse themselves in every land, pass by every clime, and travel throughout all regions. Bestirred, without rest, and steadfast to the end, they must raise in every land the triumphal cry 'Ya Baha'u'l-Abha!' (O Thou the Glory of Glories).... The disciples of Christ forgot themselves and all earthly things, forsook all their cares and belongings, purged themselves of self and passion, and with absolute detachment scattered far and wide and engaged in calling the peoples of the world to the divine guidance; till at last they made the world another world, illumined the surface of the earth, and even to their last hour proved self-sacrificing in the pathway of that beloved One of God. Finally in various lands they suffered glorious martyrdom. Let them that are men of action follow in their footsteps!'

"Having grasped the significance of these words, having a clear understanding of the true character of our mission, the methods to adopt, the course to pursue, and having attained sufficiently the individual regeneration - the essential requisite of teaching - let us arise to teach His Cause with righteousness, conviction, understanding and vigour. Let this be the paramount and most urgent duty of every Baha'i. Let us make it the dominating passion of

our life. Let us scatter to the uttermost corners of the earth; sacrifice our personal interest, comforts, tastes and pleasures; mingle with the diverse kindreds and peoples of the world; familiarize ourselves with their manners, traditions, thoughts and customs; arouse, stimulate and maintain universal interest in the Movement, and at the same time endeavour by all the means in our power, by concentrated and persistent attention, to enlist the unreserved allegiance and the active support of the more hopeful and receptive among our hearers. Let us too bear in mind the example which our beloved Master has clearly set before us. Wise and tactful in His approach, wakeful and attentive in His early intercourse, broad and liberal in all His public utterances, cautious and gradual in the unfolding of the essential verities of the Cause, passionate in His appeal yet sober in argument, confident in tone, unswerving in conviction, dignified in His manners - such were the distinguishing features of our Beloved's noble presentation of the Cause of Baha'u'llah.

"If we all choose to tread faithfully His path, surely the day is not far distant when our beloved Cause will have emerged from the inevitable obscurity of a young and struggling Faith into the broad daylight of universal recognition. This is our duty, our first obligation. Therein lies the secret of the success of the Cause we love so well. Therein lies the hope, the salvation of mankind. Are we fully conscious of our responsibilities? Do we realise the urgency, the sacredness, the immensity, the glory of our task?

"I entreat you, dear friends, to continue, nay to redouble your efforts, to keep your vision clear, your hopes undimmed, your determination unshaken, so that the power of God within us may fill the world with all its glory."

Shoghi Effendi

THE PRESENT SITUATION

Eleven Assemblies are at this moment below numbers and two more will fall below the required number of 9 when pioneers leave for Australia. These Assemblies are:-

ABERDEEN:	7	CHESTER:	6	DUBLIN:	8
EPSOM:	8	EXETER:	8	GLASGOW:	6
INVERNESS:	7	NEWCASTLE:	8	SALISBURY:	7
WOKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT:	7	YORK:	8		

PORTSMOUTH: will fall to 8 when Edgar and Pearl Boyett leave for Australia.

SOUTHPORT: will fall to 8 when Margaret Shanks leaves for Australia.

While we pray and work for the declarations to assure these Assemblies, we cannot under any circumstances allow, in this last year of the Crusade, any of them to lapse, and pioneers are still needed to fill gaps. Will those friends who could move now to serve the Cause please come forward without delay.

THIS APPEAL IS URGENT AND VITAL

THE CRUSADE SHALL NOT FAIL

TEACHING CONFERENCE

TEMPEST ANDERSON HALL, MUSEUM GARDENS, YORK.

29th-30th DECEMBER, 1962.

We are greatly honoured by the promise of Hand of the Cause, Dr. Muhlschlegel, to attend this, our last Teaching Conference of the Ten Year Crusade. We urge every member of the British Community to endeavour to be there - to hear the words of encouragement and hope from our beloved guest - to hear what the friends in this country have so far achieved - to learn what tasks still await our efforts - and to contribute to the plans for ensuring that those tasks are accomplished.

The Programme is printed overleaf - please bring it with you to the Conference.

P - R - O - G - R - A - M - M - E

TEACHING CONFERENCE -- TEMPEST ANDERSON HALL, YORK

29th-30th December 1962

"The prizes to be won by those who must tread this path.....
are not to be easily secured.....The opportunities they now
have to scale loftier heights of heroism and achieve still
mightier victories.....will if missed never again recur."

"Such a process must as the centenary celebrations approach
be so markedly accelerated and yield such a harvest as will
astonish the entire Baha'i World."

Shoghi Effendi

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SATURDAY 29th DECEMBER

- 2.30 p.m. Devotional Programme York Assembly
- 3.00 Opening of Teaching Conference by Hand of the Cause
of God, Dr. A. Muhlschlegel.
- 3.30 "....Charged by Destiny". The unfolding destiny of
the British Baha'i Community, seen from Shoghi
Effendi's Messages.
- 4.00 Report of present situation and the goals still to
be achieved on the Home Front, presented by the
National Teaching Committee.

5.30	Reports of Campaigns in Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland	David Lewis Elizabeth Greaves Harold Shephard
	Reports of teaching in the Islands, introduced by Angela Anderson	Joan Gregory Malcolm Lee Robert Beattie
6.30	Supper	
8.00	Devotional Programme	Sheffield Assembly
	Consideration of Message from Hands of the Cause of God in the Holy Land, October 31st 1962, presented by Hand(s) of the Cause of God and the National Spiritual Assembly.	
10.15	Closing prayer.	

SUNDAY 30th DECEMBER

10.00 a.m.	Devotional Programme	Leeds Assembly
10.30	"Achieve Still Mightier Victories" Consultation by entire Teaching Conference to ensure final victory on the Home Front.	
12.30 p.m.	Lunch	
2.00	Introduction of World Congress Arrangements Committee.	
2.30	The last $3\frac{1}{2}$ months of the Ten Year Crusade. Consultation by entire Teaching Conference to ensure a greater measure of consolidation on the Home Front.	
4.00	Summing up by Hand of the Cause of God, Dr.A.Muhlschlegel.	
4.30	Closing Devotional Programme	Bradford Assembly

HOTELS - Have you yet made your reservation? If not this should be done without further delay. Lists of Hotels have already been circulated to the friends. In addition there is some accommodation at The Y.H.A. Hostel, Clifton, York.

RAILWAYS - Have you obtained your application form for a concession rate ticket? This can only be obtained from the N.T.C. Secretary, Green Tiles, London Road, Twyford, Berks. The friends are urged to obtain this before the 20th December.

This concession extends over a period of 17 days - and will therefore include the Youth Winter School if you are thinking of attending.

SUNDAY LUNCH - Those friends wishing to make a reservation at the Restaurant must please inform the N.T.C. Secretary not later than 20th December 1962, in order that the correct order may be sent to the Restaurant.

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THE NEED OF THE MOMENT

On page 4 we have shown the weaknesses in our structure - weaknesses which must be repaired without delay, so that we arrive at Ridvan still with our 49 Local Spiritual Assemblies firmly established and functioning. The important thing is that none of these hard-won goals are lost. THESE FORTY-NINE THAT HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED MUST BE MAINTAINED AT ALL COSTS. This is the vital and immediate task of every one of us. We must remain at our posts if our Assembly needs us - we MUST find pioneers from those Assemblies who have believers to spare to assure the weak ones, no matter how great the sacrifice.

In his last message to the British Community, our beloved Guardian wrote: "Theirs is the duty to plod on, however tedious the nature of the work demanding their immediate attention, however formidable the obstacles involved in its proper execution, however prolonged the effort which its success necessitates."

He knew the obstacles would be formidable; he knew the effort would be prolonged, but he also assured us of "ultimate, total and complete victory".

The sacrifice will not be too great for the privilege of serving, not only our beloved Guardian, but mankind itself. Such is the responsibility.

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T E A C H I N G

Since our last issue, we have received details of nine more Fireside/Study Evenings. These are:-

KING'S LYNN	-	Saturday evenings
OXFORD	-	Sunday afternoons
NELSON	-	Wednesday evenings
BIRMINGHAM	-	Tuesday & Thursday evenings
MANCHESTER	-	Monday evenings
BLACKPOOL	-	Friday evenings
LEEDS	-	1 extra monthly & 1 fortnightly

An examination of the full list shows an increasing awareness amongst the Youth - regular firesides organised for them, and by them, not only to attract new contacts but for deepening their own knowledge of the Faith.

The number of Week-end and Day Schools increases. From the programmes planned, it is evident that the friends are becoming more and more aware of the need for study, so that they shall be prepared for that "unprecedented increase in numbers" whenever and wherever this should manifest itself.

We recommend as aids to study the "Teaching and Consolidation Hand Book", price 2/6d., and the study course:- "The Baha'i Faith" price 6d., obtainable from the N.T.C. Secretary.

The friends are also urged to study the compilation of the Guardian's letters: "The Unfolding Destiny of the British Baha'i Community", obtainable from the Sales Committee, price 5/-.

PUBLISHING TRUST

A Request

Will the friends please note that in order to ensure the arrival of books required on "Sale or Return" basis for public meetings, Week-end Schools etc., the order must be in Reg Coulson's hands AT LEAST TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT. The N.T.C. does not hold a supply of books and cannot make last minute requests to the Publishing Trust.

L.S.A's may request these books direct, as they are solely responsible to the Publishing Trust for payment, and/or return of the books. The N.T.C. is very willing to assist L.S.A's in their choice and order to the Trust, in which case the L.S.A. request to the N.T.C. must allow time for the order to be sent to Reg early enough for him to deal with it.

This request is made to facilitate the smooth execution of the work of the Publishing Trust, which the friends will realise increases daily with the growth of the Faith throughout the country.

The money should also accompany direct orders for books, which should be sent to:-

Reg Coulson Esq.,
37 Westbury Road,
Higher Crumpsall,
Manchester 8.

C A L E N D A R

<u>Nineteen</u>	December 12th - Questions
<u>Day</u>	December 31st - Honor
<u>Feasts</u>	January 19th - Sovereignty
	February 7th - Dominion
	March 2nd - Loftiness

50th Anniversary of 'Abdu'l-Baha's first visit to Scotland.
6th January, 1963.

50th Anniversary of 'Abdu'l-Baha's second visit to England.
Dec. 1962 and Jan. 1963.

to be commemorated in the four cities which he visited 50 years ago, namely: London, Bristol, Oxford and Liverpool. -

World Religion Day - 21st January, 1963.

	December 8th/9th - Southport
	" 9th - Portsmouth Youth Day
<u>Week-end</u>	" 15th/16th - DUBLIN
<u>and</u>	" 16th - Winchester; Hove
<u>Day Schools</u>	December 31st to Youth Winter School
	January 5th - in York
	January 26th/27th - Reading
(new date) -	February 23/24th - Dalston Hall, Carlisle
	April 6th - Sutton Coldfield

CALLING ALL YOUTH :

to

YOUTH WINTER SCHOOL,

THE CLIFTON HOSTEL, YORK

This major event in the Youth Bahá'í year starts on Monday morning, the 31st December, and ends on Sunday afternoon, the 6th January. A programme of varied social activities, talks and discussions has been arranged to appeal to both Bahá'ís and their non-Bahá'í friends. The final day (Sunday, the 6th January) will be devoted to a Youth Teaching Conference, with a programme designed to draw attention to the role of Youth in teaching the Cause, especially during the last few months of the Crusade.

Please make every effort to join the party.

The Clifton Youth Hostel is situated in its own grounds on the banks of the river Ouse, with easy access to the shopping centre and railway station. A frequent 'bus service (No.9) passes nearby.

THE COST is most reasonable - 8/6d. per day for accommodation,
breakfast and evening meal.

Programmes and further particulars may be obtained from -
Malcolm Lee, No.1 South Esplanade, York.

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