

# THE HOME FRONT

A NEWS BULLETIN

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No. 34

February 1963

"This is the day in which to speak. It is incumbent upon the people of Baha to strive, with the utmost patience and forbearance, to guide the peoples of the world to the Most Great Horizon. Every body calleth aloud for a soul. Heavenly souls must needs quicken, with the breath of the Word of God, the dead bodies with a fresh spirit. Within every word a new spirit is hidden. Happy is the man that attaineth thereunto, and hath arisen to teach the Cause of Him Who is the King of Eternity."

"Say: O servants! The triumph of this Cause hath depended, and will continue to depend, upon the appearance of holy souls, upon the showing forth of goodly deeds, and the revelation of words of consummate wisdom."

"Center your energies in the propagation of the Faith of God. Whoso is worthy of so high a calling, let him arise and promote it. Whoso is unable, it is his duty to appoint him who will, in his stead, proclaim this Revelation, whose power hath caused the foundations of the mightiest structures to quake, every mountain to be crushed into dust, and every soul to be dumbfounded."

"Vie ye with each other in the service of God and of His Cause. This is indeed what profiteth you in this world, and in that which is to come."

Baha'u'llah - "Advent of Divine Justice"

## BAHA'I ADMINISTRATION

SOURCES of the ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

'Abdu'l-Baha, Who incarnates an institution for which we can find no parallel whatsoever in any of the world's recognised religious systems, may be said to have closed the Age to which He Himself belonged and opened the one in which we are now labouring. His Will and Testament should thus be regarded as the perpetual, the indissoluble link which the mind of Him Who is the Mystery of God has conceived in order to ensure the continuity of the three ages that constitute the component parts of the Baha'i Dispensation. The period in which the seed of the Faith had been slowly germinated is thus intertwined both with the one which must witness its efflorescence and the subsequent age in which that seed will have finally yielded its golden fruit.

The creative energies released by the Law of Baha'u'llah, permeating and evolving within the mind of 'Abdu'l-Baha, have, by their very impact and close interaction, given birth to an Instrument which may be viewed as the Charter of the New World Order which is at once the glory and the promise of this most great Dispensation.....

The Administrative Order, which ever since 'Abdu'l-Baha's ascension has evolved and is taking shape under our very eyes.....may be considered as the framework of the Will itself, the inviolable stronghold wherein this new-born child is being nurtured and developed. This Administrative Order, as it expands and consolidates itself, will no doubt manifest the potentialities and reveal the full implications of this momentous Document - this most remarkable expression of the Will of One of the most

remarkable Figures of the Dispensation of Baha'-u'llah. It will, as its component parts, its organic institutions, begin to function with efficiency and vigour, assert its claim, and demonstrate its capacity to be regarded not only as the nucleus but the very pattern of the New World Order destined to embrace in the fullness of time the whole of mankind.....

To what else if not to the power and majesty which this Administrative Order - rudiments of the future all-enfolding Baha'i Commonwealth - is destined to manifest, can these utterances of Baha'u'llah allude: "The world's equilibrium hath been upset through the vibrating influence of this most great, this new World Order. Mankind's ordered life hath been revolutionized through the agency of this unique, this wondrous System - the like of which mortal eyes have never witnessed."..

In the Tablets of Baha'u'llah where the institutions of the International and Local Houses of Justice are specifically designated and formally established; in the institution of the Hands of the Cause of God which first Baha'u'llah and then Abdu'l-Baha brought into being; in the institution of both local and national Assemblies which in their embryonic stage were already functioning in the days preceding 'Abdu'l-Baha's ascension; in the authority which the Author of our Faith and the Centre of His Covenant have in their Tablets chosen to confer upon them; in the institution of the Local Fund which operated according to 'Abdu'l-Baha's specific injunctions addressed to certain Assemblies in Persia; in the verses of the Kitab-i-Aqdas, the implications of which clearly anticipate the institution of the Guardianship; in the explanation which 'Abdu'l-Baha, in one of His Tablets, has given to, and the emphasis He has placed upon, the hereditary principle and the law of primogeniture as having been upheld by the

Prophets of the past - in these we can discern the faint glimmerings and discover the earliest intimation of the nature and working of the Administrative Order which the Will of 'Abdu'l-Baha' was at a later time destined to proclaim and formally establish.

#### LOCAL and NATIONAL HOUSES OF JUSTICE

It should be carefully borne in mind that the local as well as the international Houses of Justice have been expressly enjoined by the Kitab-i-Aqdas; that the institution of the National Spiritual Assembly, as an intermediary body, and referred to in the Master's Will as the "Secondary House of Justice", has the express sanction of 'Abdu'l-Baha; and that the method to be pursued for the election of the International and National Houses of Justice has been set forth by Him in His Will, as well as in a number of His Tablets. Moreover, the institutions of the local and national Funds, that are now the necessary adjuncts to all local and national spiritual assemblies, have not only been established by 'Abdu'l-Baha in the Tablets He revealed to the Baha'is of the Orient, but their importance and necessity have been repeatedly emphasized by Him in His utterances and writings. The concentration of authority in the hands of the elected representatives of the believers; the necessity of the submission of every adherent to the Faith to the considered judgement of Baha'i Assemblies; His preference for unanimity in decision; the decisive character of the majority vote; and even the desirability for the exercise of close supervision over all Baha'i publications, have been sedulously instilled by 'Abdu'l-Baha as evidenced by His authenticated and widely scattered Tablets. To accept His broad and humanitarian Teachings on one hand, and to reject and dismiss with neglectful indifference His more challenging and distinguishing precepts on the

other, would be an act of manifest disloyalty to that which He has cherished most in His life.

Extracts from "Guidance for Today and Tomorrow" compiled from the writings of Shoghi Effendi.

This is the first of a series of extracts which we are to give in the next few issues of the "Home Front" -- being extracts from the writings of Shoghi Effendi on the practical applications of the Administrative Order. We earnestly request the friends to use these extracts to aid their study and understanding of this divinely inspired World Order.

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THE REMAINING TASKS on the HOME FRONT
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### 1. CONSOLIDATION

The Baha'i community is moving into a new phase since Teaching Conference. Strengthened through a crisis which has demonstrated to all men the spiritual sacrifice and the world-wide unity of the Cause. Our hearts have been inspired and uplifted by the calm unwavering purpose shown by the young Baha'is in Morocco. The news brought the Faith suddenly out of obscurity with reports in the National and local press, and in Television announcements. The growing realisation of the divine institution of the Local Spiritual Assemblies was befittingly demonstrated when they arose unitedly throughout the country, with speed and dignity, to launch an appeal for justice, under the guidance of the Hands of the Cause, and the National Spiritual Assembly. The local Press Officers, some newly appointed to the L.S.A's,

intended primarily as links in the publicity for the World Congress, have had an unexpected initiation.

Together with these larger issues, the communities are daily achieving a greater maturity, in the steady deepening through prayer and study by the individual believers, in increased personal teaching, in encouraging each other, a more humble approach to personal service, in sublimating personality in community achievement. Added to this is a greater care in the arranging of the 19 Day Feast and the celebration and understanding of the Holy Days. All these things form the warp and woof of the intricate pattern of consolidation, the twin goal of the beloved Guardian's Crusade. The fruits of fulfilling our goals are the promised "unprecedented increase in numbers"; this fact must never distract us from the task of deepening in unity and love within the communities under the shelter of the Covenant; a love which we in turn give out to humanity; a love which is the attraction; a love which will prepare us to befittingly gather in the harvest.

"O Lord, the Strong, the Wise. Ignite the fire of attraction in our hearts.....May we raise Thy banners, spread Thy signs, assist Thy Word, and support Thy friends. Make us to utter Thy praise and inspire us to arise in Thy good pleasure. Illumine our faces in the kingdom of Thy holiness, and complete our joy by confirming us in assisting Thy Cause."

'Abdu'l-Baha

## 2. THE WEAK ASSEMBLIES

- ABERDEEN - a new declaration brings their number to 8. A possible pioneer move.
- CHESTER - now 7. is expecting Jimmy Habibi in February.
- DUBLIN - although a community of 9, needs three more native believers to assure the consolidation of Eire.
- ECCLES - now 8, has Louis Ross-Enfield ready to move in if necessary.
- EPSOM - the Dodds will assure this Assembly when they have made their move from Purley.
- EXETER - this Assembly is assured when the declaration of a Persian believer has been cleared with the Persian N.S.A.
- GLASGOW - now 7, and Alan and Gholrokh Sabit Jones trying to find jobs and a place to live in this difficult city.
- INVERNESS - Parvine Khalili has already made her pioneer move bringing this Assembly to 7.
- MOTHERWELL - will be reduced to 8 when Rita Brough (nee Pepper) joins her husband in Germany, unless they can replace her by teaching.
- NEWCASTLE - needs one more to assure the Assembly.

- NORTHAMPTON - is now reduced to 8 through the sad death of Vera Rate who will be greatly missed by the friends.
- PORTSMOUTH - will be reduced to 7 when Edgar and Pearl Boyett leave for Australia on 28th February. There are hopes of one pioneer. This Assembly needs a pioneer family.
- SALISBURY - have been helped by the arrival of Naomi Long. Their Assembly will be assured when Moira becomes 21 in Feb.
- SOUTHPORT - reduced to 3 by the departure to Australia of Margaret Shanks, but has a pioneer offer from Mrs. Mohtadi.
- WINCHESTER - are expecting James Pitt to move into the civic limits when their number will be 9.
- PONTYFRIDD - are reduced to 8 by the departure of the Tomlinsons.
- WOKINGHAM R.D. - will be assured when Mr. & Mrs. Mehrnoosh have effected their pioneer move. They are negotiating the purchase of a house in Twyford.
- YORK - will be reduced to 5 when Alan and Gholrokh move to Glasgow. Have re-received pioneer offers from Terry Dunne and Alan Carter. They ask for visitors to their Wednesday evening firesides held at the Friends Meeting House, Clifford Street, York.
- SHEFFIELD - reduced to 8 by the departure to Inverness of Parvine Khalili.

BRIEFLY the position is:-

10 Assemblies still need pioneer help.

15 Pioneers are already making their  
pioneer moves, leaving

14 gaps still to be filled.

WE APPEAL FOR PIONEER HELP ESPECIALLY FOR

I N V E R N E S S

P O R T S M O U T H

Y O R K

and

D U B L I N

which needs believers of Irish background.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR OFFER NOW TO HELP  
TO ASSURE THE GOALS OF THE BELOVED  
GUARDIAN'S TEN YEAR CRUSADE.

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## 5 MORE LOCAL ASSEMBLIES BY RIDVAN

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The five Groups who are now striving to achieve Assembly status by Ridvan 1963 are: Ellesmere Port (now 4); Nelson, a community of 6; Paignton, a community of 5, 2 of them being Youth; King's Lynn with 3 adults, and Burnley Rural District with 3.

It is not expected that there will be pioneers available to assist these Groups - it is therefore more than ever necessary that all aid is given in the teaching field. They welcome visitors to their firesides which are planned as follows:-

- ELLESMERE PORT** - on Wednesdays at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas, 15 Thornwythe Grove, Ellesmere Port.
- NELSON** - also on Wednesdays - arrangements through the Secretary, Mr. Richard Bury, 267 Southfield Street, Nelson, Lancs.
- PAIGNTON** - by arrangement through the Torquay L.S.A. (Secretary Brian Huxtable, 2 Frobisher Green, Chelston, Torquay.)
- KING'S LYNN** - on Saturdays (or Sundays if the opportunity occurs) at the home of Dr. & Mrs. Firoozmand at 55 Gaywood Road, King's Lynn.
- BURNLEY R.D.** - by arrangement with Abbas and Shomais Afnan, 6 Fairburn Avenue, Ighton Hill Park, Burnley.

We are grateful to all those who continue to journey many miles to help with sister communities - giving talks at public meetings, firesides, or just supporting teaching occasions. We are particularly delighted to mention the London Youth who are planning to make regular visits to Epsom; Liverpool, who is sending a carload to support firesides in Southport each week; Manchester who gives all support to Eccles and Swinton; the Oxford Youth who have offered to support the Reading Youth firesides once a month.

In this category of teachers also comes, of course, the Helpers without whose continued and regular visits, many of the weaker and newer Assemblies would have had a very difficult furrow to plough. The constant visits of the Helpers have given encouragement and comfort during the recent months of effort to increase the tempo of teaching.

It is in this way that all of us can help in the achievement of our goals - whether the travel involved is short or far; whether we belong to an established Assembly or are lone believers; whether we are voting members or Youth. The unity of our efforts will assure our goals.

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C A L E N D A R

<u>Nineteen Day Feasts</u>	Dominion - 7th February. Loftiness - 2nd March.
<u>Intercalary Days</u>	25th February to 1st March.
<u>Fast</u>	2nd to 21st March.
<u>NAW RUZ</u>	21st March.

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Weekend and One Day Schools

January 27/28	- Swinton
February 2/3	- Cambridge
17	- Bristol
23/24	- Reading
23/24	- Dalston Hall, Nr. Carlisle
April 6	- Sutton Coldfield

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National Committee Meetings

N.S.A.	15th/17th February; 22nd/24th March; 12th/14th April.
N.T.C.	26th/27th January; 2nd/3rd March; 30th/31st March.

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