

# The HOME FRONT

## *A News Bulletin*

August, 1956

### THE DIVINE PLAN

Our beloved Guardian has said that the Tablets of the Divine Plan are the Charter for the propagation of the Faith throughout the entire Dispensation of Bahá'u'lláh. That is, for perhaps a thousand years these Tablets will guide the teaching of generations of Bahá'is, and will constitute the path they must follow to bring the peoples of the world into the World Commonwealth which is the Most Great Peace and the inception of the Kingdom of God on earth.

What are these Tablets? Briefly, they consist of fourteen Tablets revealed by 'Abdu'l-Bahá in 1916 and 1917, during the first World War. He addressed them to the Bahá'is of the U.S. and Canada, four being sent to them all, and two each being revealed for five sections of the North American Continent; for America, He had said, "will lead all nations spiritually" and the American Bahá'is have been called to be the "champion builders" of the Administrative Order. But the Divine Plan is intended for us all, and will lead and inspire all those who come to know and love it.

It is for this reason that we suggest to the friends in Britain that they turn their thoughts to the Divine Plan, study it alone and together, use its wonderful teaching prayers, and seek in their hearts fresh means of attracting to the Kingdom those souls who are ready.

To those who labour in the Goal Towns and lapsed Assemblies, we send a special word. The beloved Master has promised his aid to all who teach, and you are in a special way the trustees of the goals of the British Community this year. The Master speaks to us in His Divine Plan. If we be attentive to His words our success is assured.

--National Teaching Committee.

ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY  
OF THE BAHÁ'IS OF THE BRITISH ISLES



## THE NORTH WEST REGION

We are pleased to report an ever increasing tempo in our area and that I can write this message in a spirit of hope and certainty. We are experiencing a measure of help and co-operation from the Assemblies and individuals which we find very stimulating.

Eccles is functioning happily as a Group, holding study classes every Wednesday night, firesides, and co-operating in the advertising campaign with which we are encircling the Manchester area. Davyhulme, Flixton, and Swinton are all advertising regularly in their local papers and inviting enquiries. Cheadle is also advertising and has permission to display, free of charge, a dignified presentation of the Faith. The friends are holding firesides and public meetings and are in close touch with the Manchester community which extends its help, as it does also to Eccles, through the Greater Manchester Teaching Committee.

Blackburn: Now Trudi Scott is again living in Blackburn she is spreading the Cause in her intrepid way, and Joan Benfield is visiting regularly to give much-appreciated help. Three public meetings are arranged, and contacts are invited to the home of Mrs. Cooper.

Manchester: We have welcomed a series of "Speaking on Spec" meetings which are held as teacher training and are very successful; we strongly recommend this plan to other friends. We co-operate in social activities and recently a large group of friends attended a B.B.C. concert; a picnic has been held at Lyme Park; and a social and ballet programme is planned for the Autumn. Regular firesides are held.

We are advertising in three electric trains in this area, and Manchester is arranging six more train advertisements and has two Railway Poster sites. We have booked Lyme Hall for Weekend Schools next Whitsuntide, June 14th-15th, and September 14th-15th, 1957. We have had two declarations from Southport and Stretford. We find that personal teaching is by far the most effective method; as we put out our puny efforts we receive the confirmations from on High.

---Regional Teaching Committee

Pauline Senior, Sec'y., Stanley Lowe, Habib Habibi, Phyllis Lewis, and Clifford Johnson.



THE MASTER SPEAKS IN THE DIVINE PLAN \*\*

"Now you must become heavenly farmers and scatter pure seeds in the prepared soil. The harvest of every other seed is limited, but the bounty and the blessing of the seed of the Divine Teaching is unlimited...It has often happened that one blessed soul has become the cause of the guidance of a nation. Now we must not look at our own ability and capacity; nay, rather, we must behold the favours and bounties of God in these days, Who has made the drop to find the expression of the sea and the atom the importance of the sun." (p.30)

"It is also recorded in the blessed Gospel: Travel ye throughout the world and call ye the people to the Kingdom of God. Now this is the time that you may arise and perform this most great service and become the cause of the guidance of innumerable souls. Thus through this superhuman service the rays of peace and conciliation may illumine and enlighten all the regions and the world of humanity may find peace and composure." (p.45)

"..In the estimation of a wise man the mat in the Kingdom of God is preferable to the throne of the government of the world." (p.42)

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TO HIS SECRETARY THE MASTER SAID, while writing the Divine Plan:

"Come, my son, take it. I have corrected it. The importance of this Tablet will be revealed in the future...See with what love, with what attraction, with what exhilaration I wrote this Tablet for them...Let Me see what the friends of God will do. Will they arise with a super-human energy and spread the lights of the Sun of Reality in all those great cities, towns, villages and hamlets? I have pointed out to them the highway of service. Will they walk in it?...To sit, to talk, to listen---there is no virtue in that. To rise, to act, to help---that is a Bahá'i life...Deeds are the standards! I have done all that is necessary. I have drawn for them the plan of God which must guide them through all the coming years...Now the promotion of these principles depends upon their co-operation with each other and their turning their faces to the Kingdom of Abhá."

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GOOD NEWS! GOOD NEWS!

PIONEERS: Since last bulletin new pioneers have reached their posts. Parvin Furutan has come from Persia to train in a Brighton hospital. Mary and David Beckett have moved to Leeds and are holding firesides and associating with other groups. Ian Semple has moved permanently to Edinburgh. Dr. Moayyed, physician to the Master, has gone to Cambridge and hopes to bring his family as well. We expect soon to report the arrival of African, Persian, and American students in four Goals. And we are in consultation with eleven other friends, British and Persian, who are striving to pioneer. We ask your heartfelt prayers.

TRAVELLING TEACHERS: We hail with gratitude the herculean teaching journeys of Philip Hainsworth who has visited 22 towns from June 7th to August 27th, some of them twice, and has been active at Summer School. Meetings have totalled over 50. It would be hard to single out the best work, but his visits to Bristol, Portsmouth, Bournemouth and Brighton produced gratifying results. Philip's entire home leave has been offered to the Cause, and we in Britain are thankful for such generous expense of spiritual and financial resources, which must greatly influence our prospects of victory this year.

Ted Cardell, Knight of Baha'u'llah, has also devoted as much time as home ties have allowed, visiting Reading, Oxford, Cardiff, Salisbury, Bournemouth, Southampton, Portsmouth, and Brighton in June, carrying his deep sincerity to all. He hopes to do a Northern tour before returning to his African post.

Dr. Ernest Miller undertook a Northern journey in July, speaking in Glasgow and Edinburgh to sizable groups, and calling on E.T. Hall and Peter Esslemont. He went then to Shetland and Orkney with Mrs. Miller. Jean Campbell also visited Glasgow en route to Northern Isles.

Dan Jordan has been West to Belfast, East to Norwich, and has spoken in a number of other centres this summer. David Hofman has been enabled, through business trips, to speak for the friends in Oxford, Reading, Portsmouth, and Bournemouth. Jeannette Battrick contributed a week to planning and teaching in Cambridge and Newmarket with fruitful results. And many others have visited and taught, in all the Regions, during this blessed and busy summer.