

"O My Servants! It behoveth you to refresh and revive your souls through the gracious favours which, in this Divine, this soul-stirring Springtime are being showered upon you. The Day Star of His great glory hath shed its radiance upon you, and the clouds of His limitless grace have over-shadowed you."

(Baha'u'llah)

Beloved Friends,

The Local Spiritual Assembly has been discussing earlier in the year in order to determine how best to further the Cause of God during the months ahead. It is conscious of the many difficulties with which the London Community is faced, but it is convinced that an ardent, united effort on the part of the whole Community will attract the confirmations of Baha'u'llah. Then difficulties will melt away before the onset of the heavenly hosts who are waiting for us to give them an opportunity to spread His divine fragrances.

The recent cable from the Guardian praised the British Baha'i Community for having achieved the goals of the crucial year of the Six Year Plan in spite of prolonged strain, formidable obstacles, smallness of numbers and diversity of trials. Many of the members of the London Community are tired, ailing, faced with "formidable obstacles"; some of us have no longer the energy of youth, others are prevented by heavy responsibilities from devoting all the energy to the Cause of God that we yearn to give.

Yet if we can achieve "a greater reliance on the sustaining grace of Baha'u'llah", we will undoubtedly be enabled to contribute more and still more to the great task we have been privileged to undertake.

Confident that the Local Community, regardless of sacrifices which may be called for, will do its utmost during the coming year to be worthy of this privilege, the Assembly appeals to all the friends to lay before it frankly their feelings about the state of the Cause in London.

The Nineteen-Day Feast, through which the life of a local community flows, is the time for consultation between the Community and its Local Assembly. If the members of the London Community will bring their proposals, their comments and their criticisms to the Nineteen-Day Feasts, a new vigour and a new vital power will perhaps cause the Community to achieve successes for the Faith of which they have not even dreamed.

The Guardian spoke joyfully in his cable of April 29th about the revitalisation of the British Baha'i Community. Let us demonstrate during the coming year that the London Community has participated in this miraculous revitalisation.

With loving Baha'i Greetings,
LONDON SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

SUMMER SCHOOL

We have received this letter from the Summer School Committee:-

"The building we have rented is larger than any we have ventured on before. It will hold 140 people each week and we have given a guarantee for this number to the owners. Therefore we need all the friends to help us by coming themselves and by recommending the School to their friends and to anyone interested in the Faith. This is our first seaside Summer School and will, we firmly believe, prove to be the very best we have had. Moreover it will provide a pleasant summer holiday. Will you please urge all the members of your community to help fill it and make it a success."

Let London have a record attendance at the Summer School. Here is our chance to combine a pleasant and very happy holiday with instruction in the Cause, and living a communal life with our fellow-believers, and come to know them. Let us not tarry.

OUR PIONEERS.

We have much pleasure in announcing the addition of a new series to our Bulletin. The Local Spiritual Assembly has decided to call on our pioneers, those heroic servants who left London to teach the Cause in other towns, to send us regular accounts of their activities, so that we may publish them in our Bulletin.

Last among these was Miss Baxter who left us just before Convention. She has sent us the following account from 25, Hermitage Road, Gravelly Hill, Birmingham, 23.

"My First Month in Birmingham".

"I arrived in Birmingham on April 11th and stayed 10 days at the Y.V.C.A. and then moved into 'digs'. The chief event was Convention. I helped prepare for the reception and met Ursula Newman who arranged the floral decorations. At the Feast of Jamal, which was held in my new room, 14 were present, representing Torquay, Liverpool, London, Persia, Blackburn, Edinburgh and Leeds. This was an inspiring start to our work here.

Other historic events were the formation of the L.S.A. by declaration on April 20th, and a meeting also held at Miss Eastgate's on May 11th to welcome Arnold van Ogtrop, who gave an instructive talk to 21 people, which was much appreciated.

We also held Feasts on the 9th and 12th days of Ridvan and the 19-Day Feast of Azamat. Since then we have made arrangements to celebrate the Declaration of the Bab on Friday, 23rd at the Ardern Hotel as well as a private celebration at the correct time on Thursday night.

May 20th, 1947."

According to the Guardian's latest letter which may reach you along with this Bulletin, Dublin is to assume an added importance for the next year. We are the more glad, therefore, to be able to print the following account from Ursula Newman, whose address is c/o Miss Joynt, 89, Anglesea Road, Donnybrook, Dublin. She went to Dublin from St. Ives early in May to replace Una Townshend.

"From St. Ives to Dublin."

"Though I was sad when I parted from the small group who are studying the Faith in St. Ives, I look forward to hearing news of their progress and was delighted that Marion Hocken had been to the London Centre and the Balyuzi's fireside,

Brian Townshend gave me a list of his Dublin contacts and I am trying to get in touch with them. Doris Gould has a wonderful technique for getting into conversation with people in restaurants, and those who seem sympathetic to Baha'i principles have a way of giving her their names and addresses! We are hoping to line the meeting room of the Theosophical Society once a week and will be able to invite all these contacts.

Doris and I kept the Feast of Azamat. We were going to meet in St. Stephen's Green, but as it was raining we made use of the lounge of the Gresham Hotel and kept the last part of the Feast by eating some chocolate as we walked down the street!"

Next month we hope to let you hear from Lady Hornell and Walter Wilkins.

19-Day Feasts.

Feast of Nur (Light) - Thursday, June 5th at 7 p.m.
Hostess: Miss Vivian Isenthal.

Feast of Rahmat (Mercy) - Tuesday, June 24th at 7 p.m.
Hostesses: Mr. & Mrs. Nazar.

Alliance Hall Meeting.

Tuesday, June 10th at 7.30 p.m.

Speaker: Mrs. R. Mottahedeh - the Chairman
of the National Radio Committee of
the N.S.A. of America.

Don't miss this Meeting. Bring your friends too.
We want a large audience.

We were very glad to be able to arrange at the last minute to have Archdeacon Townshend as our speaker on May 13th. There were 38 people present. It was a thrill for most of us present, who, though being so familiar with Mr. Townshend's books and articles, were seeing and hearing him for the first time - in the flesh. We hope that he felt in some measure the warmth of our appreciation.

The Assembly has decided to make what use it can of Scripts at public meetings, and it is hoped at our July meeting to present "The Day of God" compiled by Hasan Balyuzi, which was used at one of our Rivva Feasts.

The Assembly has met twice during May and has appointed the following officers and committees:-

Archives

Hasan Balyuzi
Abbas Denkan
Mrs. James

Youth

Brian Townshend (Chairman)
Nuran Dehkan (Secretary)
Amin Ghani
Betty Leeds

Service

Miss Cheesman (Secretary)
Mrs. Hyatt
Miss Grimshaw
Mrs. Saunders

Book Sales Manager:-

Miss Cheesman
Assistant:- Mrs. Slade.

Librarian:- Brian Townshend.

News editor of Bulletin:- Brian Townshend. Please send any news you have to him c/o 6, Cannon Place, N.W.3., to arrive before the 20th of the month.

News _ We were very glad to see

Margery Parker, who has returned from Belgium where she went for a holiday. Unhappily she received injuries to her face and hand in a motor accident, but we are glad to hear that she is making a good recovery.

Visitors to last year's Summer School will remember our Dutch co-worker, Arnold van Ogtrop. Arnold has just spent a week in this country, with a company of amateur actors who are working an exchange with members of the Little Theatre Guild over here. The last two evenings were booked for London and Baha'is may see some significance in the fact that the Dutch Company played at the one theatre in London with which a Baha'i is actively associated - in Ealing. He was able to introduce the Faith to a few other theatre members, who have accepted an invitation to a fireside. Four Baha'is were able to see Arnold (in disguise), although they were not able to wait until after the show to speak to him.

There are now 5 Baha'is in Holland.

We were very glad to welcome Mr. H. Habibi at the Centre. He is here on a short visit from Persia.

The friends may be interested to know that, in accordance with a recent decision of the Assembly, copies of our Bulletin are now being sent to all other nine assemblies in the Country.
