

Bahá'í Centre, 103 Earls Court Road, W.8.

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December 1951

"O Friend! The heart is a store of divine mysteries; make it not a receptacle for mortal thoughts; and consume not the capital of this precious life by occupying thyself with the evanescent world. Thou art of the world of holiness; attach not thy heart unto the earth. Thou art a denizen of the court of heaven; choose not an earthly home."

(Bahá'u'lláh)

Nineteen Day Feasts

The Feast of Masá'il (Questions) Wednesday, December 12th, 7.30 p.m.

Hosts: Mr. and Mrs. Backwell.

The Feast of Sharaf (Honour) Monday, December 31st, 7.30 p.m.

Hosts: Dr. and Mrs. Ramzi.

Devotional Programmes of a Nineteen Day Feast

The devotional programme of a Nineteen Day Feast consists of prayers. Readings from the Scriptures may follow. No other material can be included in this section of the Feast.

Giving a Feast

Friends who wish to give a Nineteen-Day Feast are requested to get in touch with Miss Marjorie Parker, the Secretary of the Feasts Committee. Of course two or more can jointly give a Feast.

Punctuality at Meetings

It is only courteous to those who arrive early enough for a meeting, that that meeting should start at the scheduled time. (And courtesy is a virtue specially emphasized in our teachings.) This is particularly true of public meetings where enquirers and contacts are in reality our guests. We must not keep them waiting. It is our duty to show our guests every reasonable consideration, and do all in our power to help them in their quest.

LONDON TEACHING COMMITTEE

Thursday Meetings - Continue as usual at 7.30 p.m. Theme for December:
"Prescription for Living".

Sunday Devotional Meeting - December 2nd. Tea 4 p.m. Devotional 5 p.m.

Public Meeting - Monday, December 3rd, 7.30 p.m. in the Kent Room, Caxton Hall,
Westminster (St. James' Tube Station)

Three Speakers: Vivian Isenthal, Hugh McKinley, Ursula Samandari, will deal with the theme: "The Challenging Requirements of the Present Hour". This topic is of vital interest to everyone, so please tell all your friends.

Firesides - A contact from Canada phoned a London Bahá'í the other day. He had only a few days in London. Where could he attend a fireside meeting that night? "Sorry," he was told. "There's nothing on tonight. There's a meeting at the Centre next Thursday." "Oh," said he, "in Toronto there's a fireside somewhere or other every night of the week!" Couldn't we have some firesides in London too?

Visit from the Norwich Friends - They are coming to see us on Sunday, December 2nd. They will be at the Centre at 3 p.m. Let us turn up in good force to welcome these very dear friends who come from such a long distance to honour us with a visit.

Consolidation - The Spiritual Assembly recently appointed a Sub-Committee to study the problem of consolidation. It has now reported to the Assembly. Based in that report, it is proposed to divide the very large London area into six regions,

viz. Central, Kensington, Southern, South-Western, North-Western, and Far North-Western, for the purposes of holding regional gatherings and establishing closer relationships between the friends in these areas. A beginning is now made with this scheme which can have far-reaching results, and also lead to the formation of fireside groups for teaching the Cause.

At Homes - In furtherance of the consolidation of the Community, it was resolved at a recent Nineteen Day Feast to encourage the friends to hold "At Homes" when they can visit each other and partake of Bahá'í Fellowship. The Spiritual Assembly welcomes and endorses this resolution, and offers the medium of this Bulletin for the announcement of "At Homes". And here is the first announcement:

Mrs. Violet McKinley and Hugh McKinley will be At Home to all Bahá'ís on Monday, December 7th, from 7 p.m.
Address: 122 Tooting Bec Road, S.W.17.

Our Community - We have been very happy to meet Mrs. Morrison and Mr. Giordano, friends from Australia.

Miss Nayyereh Mottahedin has come to London from Eastbourne, to continue her training here. We offer her a most loving welcome.

Mrs. Alai and Mrs. Munsiff have left for Persia and India respectively. Hushang Asasi has also gone to Persia. Our love goes with them, and we are looking forward to Mehrangiz Munsiff's return in the near future.

Our deepest love also goes to Mme. Nermi-Egounoff, who is ill at her home. We are praying for her.

We have had the very great pleasure of several visits from Richard St. Barbe Baker.

Faramarz Taeedi, who was once in our Community and is now at Devonport, visited us recently. We were indeed glad to see him.

By-Election - The result of voting on the tie in the by-election was as follows: Mehdi Samandari 17; Kathleen Hornell 12; Rustam Sabit 6.

Treasurer's Report - The generous donation of £200 sent by a friend abroad, towards the rental of our Centre, will be exhausted by the end of December. From then we have to shoulder the rent. We all want our Centre, and certainly do not like to be without it. And so it is up to all of us to make possible its retention.

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Recently a London Bahá'í who wished very much to give a Feast, decided to forego this spiritual pleasure, and give an equivalent sum to the funds.

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Books in Public Libraries - The Spiritual Assembly requests all of the friends to see if their local public libraries have any Bahá'í books, and in case they have, which books these are. The Assembly will be very grateful if the friends report the results of their investigation.

Correspondence with Bahá'í Communities Abroad

Based on a suggestion from the National Consolidation Committee, we have decided to start corresponding with a Bahá'í Community abroad, and have asked to be put in touch with the Community of Puntas Arenas (Chile) the Southernmost Community in the Bahá'í world. Once we used to correspond with Anchorage, Alaska, the Northernmost Community.