## News Letter from Baha'is of the British Isles.

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September, 1929.

"O Children of Baha! Associate with all the people of the world, with men of all religions, in concord and harmony; in the spirit of perfect joy and fragrance. Remind them also of that which is for the benefit of all."

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Words of Baha'u'llah.

"Today, Divine powers reinforce the souls who are spreading the Cause of God. Whoever walks upon this highway is confirmed: those who appear now as dried plants will be changed into fruitful trees. God's blessing will rest upon all who enlist in the service."

ABDU'L BAHA.

## DEAR FRIENDS,

Since our first News Letter was circulated in July, various messages have reached us, causing us to realise anew the power of united thought and effort. We feel that God has answered the prayer with which our letter went forth, and we give thanks to Him for the consciousness of this, and for the deep bond of love which unites us all. We also give heartfelt thanks for blessing in many places, where the Baha'i message has been given during the past two months, and pray that we may go forward with singleness of heart and purpose, relying on the promise, "He who ariseth to serve the Cause of God verily the doors of might and power shall be thrown open before his face."

The visit to London of Mrs. Mary Hanford Ford, our gifted friend and teacher from overseas, from June 19th to July 19th, was a spiritual benediction.

Many people who had not previously heard of the Cause were given the Baha'i Message during her stay; small groups were addressed; well-attended meetings at Lindsey Hall were held each Wednesday evening, and inspiring lectures given from the platforms of various societies, including those of the International New Thought Conference, three Unitarian Churches, the Fellowship of Faiths, and a Peace Meeting.

The wouderful spirit of Baha'u'llah and Abdu'l Baha pervaded all of these meetings and confirmed the belief that the Cause in England will go forward with gathering speed because we are becoming more and more as "One soul in many bodies."

After her stay in London Mrs. Ford visited York, and Liverpool and vicinity, where she lectured to interested audiences and talked with many individuals who were seeking the true light.

The friends of the Baha'i Movement in England and the world over will be glad to learn that a permanent home for the Cause has been established in Loudon and will be opened during the latter part of September. Its location is ideally central—in Walmar House, Upper Regent Street, within a minute's walk of Oxford Circus.

The occupancy of this room will serve a dual purpose. In it the regular meetings of the London Baha'is, formerly conducted at Lindsey Hall, will be held. But it will also provide something that hitherto has been lacking in the effort for the spread of the Cause in London—a permanent headquarters which will be kept open daily from ten until six where the Baha'i books will be available and some one will be in attendance to give information to enquirers.

Through the faith and sacrifice of the believers, inspired by the spirit of Baha'u'llah, what seemed like insuperable obstacles in the way of the achievement of this objective have been surmounted. The imagined difficulties have disappeared as if by a miracle and in the light thus revealed of the wonderful power of the Spirit all that is now needed to ensure the permanency of this effort and its expansion to untold-of dimensions is the continuation of our faith and the unceasing devotion of our spiritual and material means toward this end.

The Manchester Assembly reports steady continuance of activities although the glory of summer certainly affects indoor meetings. Fragrant breaths of the Spirit arrive in letters from abroad-from Haifa, Teheran, Melbourne, Washington, Carmichael; from Auckland (New Zealand), and from circulars through London. Then, too, there is the usual reciprocity between the friends in York. Blackburn, Manchester, and Broadstone, whilst the mentionings of the Abha Cause continue in the Wick (Caithness) Journal. A rather special meeting was held in Higher Broughton on Wednesday evening, July 31st, attended by seventeen adults and two children —the bulk of the friends still left in Manchester during this holiday season. Mr. Bernard Ingleby, an ardent lover of the Truth, delivered a fine address under the appropriate title of "The Divine Purpose and the Individual." It began as a "heart to heart talk" showing the manner in which the speaker had become illumined by the Truth, and how he had found liberty of heart and mind through it. The address developed into the great theme that the Divine Purpose is the Kingdom of God upon earth, and that its realisation depends upon each person's sincere endeavours to reflect in life the Heaveuly attributes of God-such as Love, Justice, Universality. Finally, the speaker stirred the hearts of his audience by powerful references to the liberating power of Baha'u'llah, and by reiterating the profound truth that Baha'u'llah has actually begun the Kingdom of God upon earth. We are individually responsible, he claimed, for the development of this new and glorious condition in the world, the right way having been shown to us clearly. It was an evening of great joy to the friends, amongst whom was a young and very intelligent Moslem from Hyderabad (Deccan), who is just hearing of the Baha'i Movement. To all and to everyone the Manchester friends send their heartiest loving greetings.

The members of the **Bournemouth** Assembly, and other friends, enjoyed some happy meetings during the visit of Mrs. Mary Hanford Ford to Broadstone, from July 30th to August 5th. On Wednesday, July 31st, Mrs. Ford gave a most inspiring lecture on "World Brotherhood" at the Town Hall, Bournemouth, and at the close questions were asked and answered, and much interest shown. Mrs. Ford also addressed a group of friends in the garden of "Rizwan," Broadstone, on Sunday, August 4th, the subject chosen being "The Baha'i teachings in their relation to Christianity." Some present heard the message for the first time—given in the power of the Spirit, with clearness and certainty, and many were blessed and helped. Opportunities were also given for quiet talks with small groups during our friend's visit, and her deep spirituality and knowledge of the Baha'i teachings were an inspiration to all.

Visits from Mrs. George and Mrs. Slade on Sundays, August 11th and 18th were also much appreciated, and happy meetings at which these friends spoke were held.

May we all press forward, humbly, thankfully, and prayerfully, realising the greatness of the opportunities that lie before us, and the still greater power of the Divine Spirit,—and may we all be ready to place ourselves and all our resources under His control.

## O Son of Being!

Walk in my Statutes as a token of thy love for me and deny thyself that which thou desirest if thou seekest My pleasure.

## O Son of Man!

Magnify My Cause, that I may make manifest unto thee the Secret of My Greatness, and shine upon thee with everlasting Light.

Information concerning the Movement can be obtained from the Secretaries,

MRS. ROMER, Secretary, London Spiritual Assembly, 2, Sloane Terrace, Sloane Square, S.W.1.

Mr. E. T. Hall, Secretary, Manchester Spiritual Assembly, 1, Norton Street, Higher Broughton, Manchester.

MISS G. CHALLIS, Secretary, Bournemouth Spiritual Assembly, "Rizwan," Broadstone, Dorset.