

ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

## "PIONEER SPIRIT"

1. The Conference called the London and Manchester friends to special

STOP PRESS!

London Teaching Conference called for Sunday, 22nd January,  
2:45 P.M. London Bahá'í Centre.



repeat Teaching Conferences to be held in their own local Communities as soon as they can possibly be arranged. The purpose of these consultations is the urgent consideration of the Guardian's appeal to the "unmerically larger Communities".

2. The Conference attendants agreed to make every possible effort to be present at these miniature Teaching Conferences in order to carry to them the dynamic and resolute spirit of the Leeds gathering.

3. The Agenda to be followed will include sessions on The Spirit of Pioneering, Pioneer Activities, and the Practical Approach to Pioneering.

4. Several members of the National Teaching Committee and pioneers from the Goal Towns will be present to conduct the sessions.

5. The Conference strongly urged full attendance by all local believers at these vitally important meetings.

#### CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS.

The key-note of this year's Teaching Conference - a Conference marking the threshold of the Final Phase of our Plan - was the Guardian's cablegram. Hasan Balyuzi magnified the profound significance underlying its contents when he laid emphasis upon the vital importance of heralding and championing the Covenant of God today.

Meherangiz Munsiff, in an appeal which touched the very souls of all present, offered herself as a pioneer and called upon her fellow Londoners and the friends from Manchester to realize that service to the Cause and to the Guardian and, thereby, to humanity and to ourselves, is the only way of life worth considering in this chaotic and war-threatened world of today.

The pioneers rose to emphasize their eagerness to pioneer once again if only someone would arise and offer to release them from their present posts. Ursula Newman spoke for them all when she said, "The hardest test a pioneer must face is the knowledge that he can pioneer in only one town at a time, despite continual appeals for settlers for other areas."

One believer offered £10. for expenses to any Baha'i who would, from the Conference floor, offer to pioneer.



Statistically speaking, the Conference was highly successful. Seventy-six believers and 8 contacts attended. Providing evidence of the active and wide-awake quality of the newer believers was the fact that fifty-percent of the Bahá'ís there had been confirmed in the Faith during the Six Year Plan, twenty-three percent since Teaching Conference 1948.

Rafi Mottahedeh, of New York City, was our welcome guest at the Conference and not only took an active and stimulative part in the consultation but brought greetings from the Bahá'ís of his home Community and more especially from the new believers and pioneers of Rome, Italy, where he had recently visited, as well.

#### NEWS FROM THE PLACES WHERE PIONEERS ARE NEEDED.

Belfast - In a recent letter to the NTC, Charles Dunning closed with the following words, which indicate how one pioneer feels about his service to the Cause of God, "As I am writing this, they are playing on the wireless 'I Want to See My Home Again'; and yes, that I do - but only as a pioneer. I want an Assembly here in Belfast. So when you meet, remember that I know that yours is no easy job and that I know that you have your worries also. So don't think that when I worry, I don't remember you and can't spare a moment of prayer for our NTC. And when you meet, may I be allowed to be with you in spirit? I am sure you are going to have good results by April. I am sure the time is ripe now for launching out. So, in closing, try to see what I mean, and if this is brought out in every Assembly, that every Bahá'í must get into harness and that the responsibility is on everyone; and if they will see it this way, they will understand this pioneer's views. For it is no bed of roses, and this it is only fair to tell everyone who intends to go out. So now get a move on and let your Assembly see you are a live wire. In His service, Charles."

Oxford - Derrick Faux writes wonderful news from this Goal Town, "The first Nineteen-day Feast to be held in this City took place on Thursday, 30th December, at the home of David and Marion Hofman. The immediate future of the Cause in Oxford was the subject of consultation. £5 had been received as a gift from the Birmingham LSA to start the Oxford Fund. The Birmingham friends had also given a tea-service for use at Feasts and firesides." Excellent work has already been done by Derrick in looking up the records of the Master's visit to Oxford and in making contacts among those people who met or knew of Him.



## COMMUNITY EXPANSION AND CONSOLIDATION.

"The Promise of All Ages" is the nation-wide theme of Public Meetings to be held in 22 centres in these Isles between 30th January and 6th February. Held in connection with a wide-spread publicity campaign, these meetings constitute the largest single effort of its kind in British Bahá'í history and all believers are urgently asked to make every effort to give them full support, by their own presence and that of their friends as well. Follow-up fire-sides should be arranged wherever possible, and introduction to the current study-classes encouraged for all close contacts.

From Dublin comes an enthusiastic report of Meherangiz Munsiff's visit last month, "We would like to thank the NTC for arranging Meherangiz's visit to Dublin, which was the source of great joy and inspiration to the friends. She achieved the triumph of publicity in an Irish Roman Catholic newspaper. .. Margaret Sullivan arranged a fireside in her home.. and the evening was valuable as well as delightful. Brian Townshend arranged the Press Conference which turned out a very harmonious meeting. At the Public Meeting, Mrs. Munsiff asked for a non-Bahá'í chairman...After her beautiful talk, a lively but sympathetic discussion followed and a feeling of harmony prevailed.. We feel that the visit of such a radiant Bahá'í was a great help to the progress of the Cause in Dublin."

Ursula Newman visited Edinburgh for two days after Teaching Conference and gave a most inspiring and beautiful talk on "Portals to Freedom" and the Public Meeting. Her clear and lucid explanation of progressive revelation appealed most successfully to the deeply religious approach of the Scottish audience.

## BAHÁ'Í YOUTH BULLETIN.

Every effort is being made to increase the value of the B.Y.B. as a teaching aid. But in order to do this and due to the rising cost of production and the understandable need for the Youth Bulletin to exist on a financially sound basis, it has been necessary to raise the subscription rates as per the forthcoming issue. The new price will be:

At home: 4/- per year (four issues), single copy 10d., post free.

Abroad: 4/6 per year, single copy 11d., post free.

Photographs of the Master are obtainable at 1/- per copy. All of the friends are urged to support the BYB by sending their subscriptions to Ronald Sellars, 7 Fountain Street, Godley, Hyde, Cheshire.