

TEACHING NEWS BULLETIN

.....
Issued by the National Committee

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SPOT-LIGHTING LIVERPOOL!

Social activity is the keynote of this Goal Town's ambitious and energetic teaching programme.

Contacts are being made through close association with other organizations having similar principles and interests. On November 12th a Brainstrust was held by the Baha'is in conjunction with the Crusaders for World Government and the Fellowship of Youth. Baha'i speakers have also been offered to the Young Conservatives Club. One of the friends has attended a religious discussion group and was successful in making contacts through mention of Mr. Townshend and his books.

Through informal conversation over tea or dinner, before and after concerts and the theater, the contacts have become the friends of the Baha'is. Several Baha'i Socials, where good food, music and light conversation have formed the prelude to mention of the Faith, have proved a new and highly successful part of the teaching activities.

Vida Johnston, speaking of one such gathering, on November 7th, says: "The reception yesterday was very successful; 14 Baha'is and 15 non-Baha'i friends present. As an introductory outline, Jean Court's talk was just what was required. She began with a talk on Luxembourg and very cleverly introduced the Faith from the longing of the women of Luxembourg for peace. The whole was about 10 minutes following tea, and then we proceeded to the entertainment, a gramophone recital with selections by Mrs. and Miss Coulson. It was just grand having all the Manchester friends over... We all agree that the indirect influence will be very good; the direct influence will be seen when we meet these people later this week.."

Attendance at Public Meetings and firesides is encouraged; and when the interest and friendship of the contact is secure, he is invited to the regular weekly study-class, for which study-programmes have been printed. That Liverpool is successful in its analysis of the needs and approach of its contacts is very evident indeed from this/

this statement by one recent guest speaker, "Liverpool has great possibilities; its contacts are very alive!"

CHANGE OF ADDRESS!

Have you ever known the deep joy of pioneering? Would you like to hear how several of your pioneers feel about it, what they do, and how they live? Shall we let them tell their own tale?

Derrick Faux, having been in Oxford only a fortnight, already writes that he has a job and a place to live. He tells us of his activities; "My first days here have been taken up in getting to know my way about and meeting a few useful contacts. I have also made some interesting notes from the 1913 Oxford papers about 'Abdu'l-Bahá's lecture here. On Friday I met the Librarian of Manchester College. As I walked up the steps and along the corridors, I was so conscious of the fact that it was here where the Master had come to lecture. He had trod these stones; His voice had been heard in this hall.. In one corner (of the library) were a dozen or so books about our Faith.."

Robert Cheek, writing from his pioneer post in Bristol, underlines the spirit of pioneering when he says, "..To teach the Faith is as necessary as the air I breathe; for without it, I could not live.."

Dick Backwell's report from Newcastle contains elements of the humor, the pathos, and the hard work of pioneering: "I have a bed in room for three in a boarding house.. There are advantages - the place is continually heated, the food fairly plentiful... the other lodgers are quite amiable, though rather numerous for the one bathroom in the morning. The drawbacks are largely..the lack of place to put things and no privacy or place to study and write... Of a total of 43 names and addresses in the Tyneside area, I have personally called on 30 so far, and found that 2 had died, 16 had moved elsewhere, 4 showed some degree of interest...I should say that I think this kind of contact chasing can be good fun in a way and valuable in all sorts of ways.."

".. AND ALL SHALL BEHOLD HIM."

A new believer tells of a dream she had the night she became a Bahá'í, " I was riding through a strange city on the top of a bus. I looked up and across the sky in large letters was written the word 'Bahá'u'llah! When I saw it there so plain and clear, I wept, because I knew that no one else in that city had seen it. For they continued to go their weary way unaware that He had come, though His

Name was written boldly across the sky."

AROUND THE COMMUNITY.

From Blackpool comes the good news that the friends there have officially constituted themselves a Bahá'í Group. Alice Curwen has been elected Chairman and Cyril Jenkinson, Secretary. Cyril has been ill recently; we know the friends will pray for swift recovery. Jean Court and David Hofman have been recent guest speakers there.

In Norwich the teaching work is progressing rapidly. Writes pioneer Prudence George, "Our close contacts are coming along fine and surprising us every time we meet." Prue tells of a young girl from Glasgow who has come to work where she lives and who is already a close friend of the Faith sending literature to her family. Members of the Norwich Group now attend numerous church meetings with their contacts as one method of becoming better acquainted.

Belfast reports a very successful Reception held in commemoration of the Birth of Baha'u'llah and assisted by David Hofman on his recent teaching trip to Ireland. Olga Mills and Charles Dunning, pioneers to this Goal Town, are doing trojan work on the virgin soil of North Ireland.

The British Community is very happy to welcome Marion Little, of America, to this country once more. Marion, who last year gave the friends in Scotland and England her valuable help, now writes from Dublin of her recent visit there; "We had a very good meeting last evening - about 20 people, and all seemed interested. I am so grateful for having had the opportunity to go to Dublin and meet the friends. I feel very strongly that some day soon there shall be a very strong community there". The Dublin Community held a Seminar in conjunction with the Final Phase Day activities there. David Hofman assisted at the Reception and acted as one of the guest "professors."

Further news of Meherangiz Munsiff's circuit teaching trip underlines intensive contact with outside organisations, meetings with prominent citizens and educators and the press. Details of several new and interesting teaching techniques and a fuller report of Meherangiz' activities are in preparation.

Jean Court spoke recently at a Public Meeting in Leeds when she stopped there en route to Blackpool and Liverpool, where she helped the friends in their teaching work. (See - page 1.)

"What Modern Man Should Know About Religion" is the thought-provoking theme of the study class recently inaugurated in Birmingham. An attractive programme card giving full details of the various aspects/

aspects of the subject to be studied throughout the course has been printed and circulated to all contacts and friends. The class is being held every Thursday evening in a room at the Birmingham International Centre, and the friends are dividing the sessions amongst themselves.

The Manchester Community is doing excellent work in support of the Liverpool teaching activities, (see - page 1). Speakers and chairmen have been provided as well as a substantial audience of Baha'is. Hugh McKinley was a recent guest speaker at the Manchester Sunday evening Public Meeting.

Bristol has been the continual scene of activity in recent weeks with Meherangiz Munsiff and Ursula Newman as guest speakers, both giving excellent talks and arousing considerable interest. Dora Weeks writes of a special contact-making effort as well; "The United Nations Association put on a big meeting.. Four members of our Assembly were present and individual contact work carried on, the opportunity to speak to people coming in unexpected ways. Individuals have also attended public meetings, such as the Peace Council for Christians and Jews.."

London reports that Mrs. Slade has been elected to the Local Spiritual Assembly at the recent by-election. Marion Little spoke there at one of the Wednesday evening Public Meetings.

Stella Farnsworth of Blackburn has been appointed Secretary of the Northern Regional Teaching Committee.

The National Youth Committee announces that interesting and informative articles, news items, book reviews, laboratory work, and poetry, devotional selections, letters to the editor containing questions on the Faith, and any other material which may be suitable are urgently needed for the Baha'i Youth Bulletin. Adults and youth alike are urged to take pen to hand and send their contributions to Hugh McKinley, 111 Cathedral Road, Cardiff. Bulletin subscriptions should be sent to Ronald Sellars, 7 Fountain Street, Godley, Hyde, Cheshire.

A Regional Youth Conference for the Midlands and South-west Regions is being planned for early Spring. Watch for further news Later!