

*"Blessed is the spot..... where mention of God hath been made"*

# TEACHING NEWS BULLETIN

ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

No. 8: 1st Jalal, 105.  
9th April, 1949.

## THE STATE OF THE PLAN

Dear Friends,

Associated with the most recent cablegram from the Guardian, we feel that the believers would like to know the exact condition of the Plan at the date of the last N.S.A. meeting on 27th March and, also, now, one week later after the N.T.C. meeting, just 2 weeks before the 1st day of Ridvan, 21st April, the date by which the goals for this year must be achieved.

On March 27th, only two out of the nine newly formed L.S.A.s were absolutely numerically secure and, therefore, assured of maintaining their Assembly status on April 21st. Not one of the goals for this year had been achieved. Eighteen believers were required to fill all of these gaps.

As of that date, the N.S.A. directed the N.T.C. to safeguard the prized Local Spiritual Assemblies already won under the Six Year Plan; to achieve the goal of Assembly status in Belfast, Virgin Territory Northern Ireland, at all costs; and to win as many of the remaining goals for this year as possible.

The N.T.C. has, one week later, drawn up plans to achieve as many of these goals as possible. This involves, in  $2\frac{1}{2}$  weeks, the enormous task of moving 12 pioneers to new posts and the confirmation of, at least, two new believers in the Goal Towns.

These plans do not include any provision, whatsoever, for Liverpool. And we have to report that at the present time we have neither teachers



nor pioneers available to direct to this Goal Town where the friends have worked so devotedly throughout the year in eager anticipation of the formation of their cherished Spiritual Assembly.

The Committee prays that the Guardian's cable does not go unanswered, and we assure you that we stand ready to cooperate immediately with the friends to do the utmost to win all of the goals of this year.

Faithfully and with deep love,

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

MEETING THE "SUPREME CHALLENGE".

Between now and April 21st the stirrings of great activity will be detected in many parts of the country as employers receive resignation notices; landladies are informed of the need of new tenants; suitcases are packed bulging with books, papers and clothing; farewells are both joyfully and tearfully made; one way rail tickets are purchased; and prayers are fervently uttered for the success of the new pioneer projects which are underway.

The indescribable thrill and joy of setting out on a mission for God and Bahá'u'lláh has already come to some, while others are just now in the initial stages of preparation. We shall try to keep you informed of each new move as it takes place on the gigantic stage which is our Six Year Plan. We wish it were possible to bring to you the picture of real life drama, of the laughter and tears, which almost hourly mark the path of each new pioneer as he arises and sets out to meet the "supreme challenge" which our beloved Guardian has marked for us.

Joe and Evelyn Lee have become the first valiant souls to arise from the Manchester Community in response to the urgent appeal for pioneers made by the Guardian to the Teaching Conference. Taking their family of four with them, Joe and Evelyn are settling in Nottingham from which it is hoped other willing pioneers will soon be able to be released for projects in the Goal Towns. Thus once more proof that whole families can and have "taken up their beds and walked" has been given. And with this move one of the prizes of the Plan has been safeguarded.

Cyril and Margaret Jenkerson and family of three are at this



very moment making every possible endeavour to find a house in Oxford by the 21st. Cyril has already established himself in his trade and only asks that his home Community Bradford and the friends pray for relief of the housing problem.

Meherangiz Munsiff and tiny Joyti had not only left "Daddy" Eruch behind in London to enter the pioneer field in Oxford but have now further sacrificed comfort by agreeing once more to pack clothing, toys, crib, and books and transfer residence to Cardiff in order to safeguard that prized Assembly in Virgin Territory Wales.

When she heard that Oxford required more believers by the 21st, our dear friend Connie Langdon-Davis immediately acquired herself a house and settled in that Goal Town.

With radiance and joy, old-timers Ursula Newman and Fred Stahler are in the midst of moving their pioneer lives from Dublin to Belfast and from Cardiff to Bristol in order to assure the goals in these towns.

"TEACH YE THE CAUSE OF GOD.."

We have long known that pioneering and teaching are the two great pillars upon which the success of our Plan must rest. The need in both spheres is always acute. More and more we are realizing that planned, co-ordinated sacrifice for service in these fields is what we must try to offer. This year longer teaching projects have been used to sustain the Goal Towns where insufficient pioneer help was available. During the coming last year of the Plan, we will again need as many long term teaching projects as possible. If you cannot offer to pioneer, try to arrange your holidays or free time to allow for such long term teaching service to our beloved Cause in the Goal Towns.

George Townshend has just completed a most successful Seminar in Belfast and is carrying on a similar programme in Edinburgh this week. Entering these two citadels of religious orthodoxy with a beautifully full and rich series of talks directly on the Faith, Mr. Townshend has created considerable interest and attention. In both places the audiences have numbered well into the twenties and the discussion periods have been long and serious.

Each year at this time certain of the friends have consistantly come forward with offers of week or fortnight teaching projects.



Among these is Muriel Mathews who has just completed two fortnight projects in Norwich and Liverpool. Emily Eastgate is about to set out for Norwich and Brighton for two week projects. Claire Gung has been helping the friends in Belfast for a month and has done extension speaking in Dublin as well. Dorothy Ferraby, taking the N.S.A. treasury work with her, has just spent a fortnight in Dublin and Belfast. Dick Backwell has just finished a three week project in Edinburgh and has gone on to Belfast to help with the follow-up work there. Philip Hainsworth, taking the entire N.T.C. secretariate with him, has just completed a fortnight project in Norwich. All of these projects have been very successful, and we hope to give you further details of the actual teaching work as the reports come in. Needless to say, the R.T.C.s have been carrying on a full schedule of visiting teachers, and the exchange of national teachers has kept the study-class and public meetings programmes progressing smoothly in all of the communities in the country.

#### A VISITOR FROM ABROAD

We would like to welcome Miss Ethel Dawe to this country from Australia, where she serves the Cause on the N.S.A. and as a flying travelling teacher. Miss Dawe, who explains the great need for air travel in that vast country by speaking of journeying 2,000 miles to assist in a Goal Town, is an officer of the Australian Broadcasting Company here to study with the B.B.C. Last week Miss Dawe gave two excellent talks in Cardiff and Bristol and already the enthusiastic reports are coming in.

#### THE MOST JOYFUL OF ALL NEWS.

Three declarations have been received from Belfast from Capt. and Mrs. Fitz-Currie Trench and from Mr. Robert Sloane. From Norwich comes news of the declaration of Harold Haines, husband of Agnes Haines. From Glasgow, we hear of Ada Williams' first newly declared believer, Mrs. McKechnie. And the friends in Birmingham write with great joy of the declaration of Johnny Marshall's dearly loved son, George Marshall. We extend a most loving and warm welcome to all of the new believers. We also welcome Mr. John Dixon a Canadian believer now resident and active in Brighton.

#### YOUR PRAYERS ARE NEEDED

Our dearly loved and cherished pioneer to Belfast, Charles Dunning has been seriously ill with pneumonia. He is recovering nicely in City Hospital, Belfast.